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EUROPEAN CHANCES.

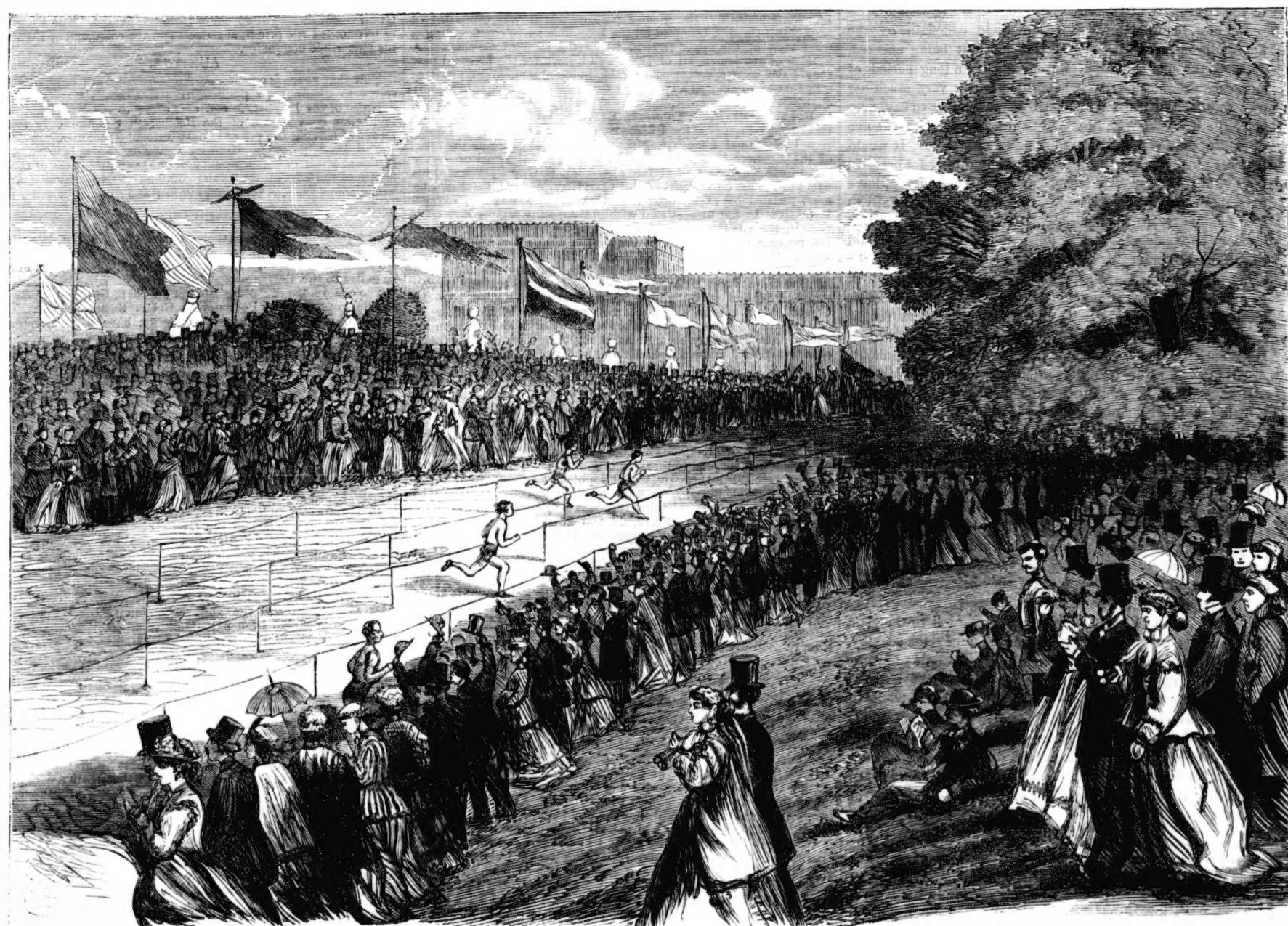
THE state of Europe, like the weather, is a subject everyone can talk about, but concerning which, in the present condition of the political atmosphere, it is very unsafe to make predictions. Everything, for the moment, is beautifully calm ; and, with the exception of such insignificant little States as Belgium and Holland, no Power seems seriously to have taken alarm at the recent goings on of Prussia, which *did*, however, at one time, cause some dismay in the immediate neighbourhood. The most important organ of English opinion has lately been playing the part of a political Dr. Pangloss, and maintaining that everything is for the best in the best-possible Europe. So it may be ; but, in that case, what a mistake we must have committed in opposing the first step made by Prussia towards the unification of Northern Germany under the Prussian banner ?—which is the most striking new feature in the Europe of the present moment. The Prussians are, in reality, doing very much what the Italians, under Victor Emmanuel, did after the war of 1859, when Tuscany, Modena, Parma, and the kingdom of Naples were annexed to the newly-formed kingdom of Italy without any reference to the wishes of their several rulers. It may even be said that, in claiming Schleswig-Holstein for Germany, Prussia played a similar part to that which has since been performed by Italy in respect to Venetia. The duchy of Holstein and the greater part of the duchy of Schleswig were inhabited by



THE LATE MARQUIS DE BOISSY.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

Germans who, if they did not certainly suffer, were at least supposed to suffer, from Danish oppression. As far as could be judged by the evidence forthcoming on the subject, no oppression was practised towards them ; but, on the contrary, the Danes governed them with all possible equity. They objected, however, to being ruled by foreigners, and their great aspiration was to link their fate to that of a great nation of their own race. This was precisely the position of the Venetians, who have never had any serious accusation to make against their Austrian government, except that they disliked it on national grounds. The Austrians have had to suppress insurrections in Venetia as the Danes have had insurrections to suppress in Schleswig-Holstein ; but, except in the face of open defiance, both Austria and Denmark behaved with as little harshness as possible to the rebellious subjects who have lately been removed from beneath their sway.

We blame the Germans for slowness of apprehension ; but it is only since the "seven days' war," and the annexations by which it was accompanied or followed, that we have understood what the Germans of Northern Germany really want. In this respect both England and France have been at fault. The attack upon Denmark gave offence to England, just as the occupation of Hanover, Saxony, and the other little States now annexed, or on the point of being annexed, to Prussia awakened the susceptibilities of France. But, as we have said before, no jealousy of Prussia



PEDESTRIANISM AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE; THE GREAT RACE.

is now expressed in any quarter; and "united Germany" has become almost as popular with the Liberals of Europe as "united Italy" itself. On the other hand, there are signs from which it would appear that the "seven days' war" may, after all, have only been the prelude to a struggle of much longer duration. It is in Prussia herself, and in the utterances of Prussians, that these indications are to be looked for. Not a voice is raised against the Prussians from abroad; but General von Moltke, the strategist of the recent campaign, has just repeated the warning which came a few weeks ago from the lips of Count von Bismarck, and has informed his countrymen that in his opinion the sacrifices they have had to make for the cause of Prussia and Northern Germany are by no means at an end. This, of course, may only mean that Prussia meditates a further extension of territory—not that she expects to be called to account for what she has already absorbed. The appointment of Baron Beust—a sworn enemy of Prussia, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Vienna—has been looked upon as a proof that Austria has not yet abandoned all intention of renewing the old historical contest with her rival for supremacy in Germany; but it seems much more probable that Prussia will disturb the existing peace by claiming new territory than that her possession of what she now holds will be seriously disputed.

Prussia has at this moment a very nice quarrel with Holland, which must rejoice the hearts of Prussian diplomatists, though it can scarcely give serious occupation—unless made the occasion for bringing forward weightier questions of a similar nature—to Prussian Generals. The fortress and territory of Luxemburg in Holland belong, or rather belonged, to the German Confederation, who had the right of maintaining there a German garrison. The garrison actually in possession consists of Prussian troops, and the Dutch Government wishes to know whether they represent Prussia, to which Luxemburg does not belong, or the German Confederation, which no longer exists. No Prussian reply has yet been published to these very reasonable questions; but, in the meanwhile, the Prussian Government gives a practical answer, which is only too intelligible, by keeping its troops in Luxemburg. It is of no immediate importance to us whether Luxemburg is garrisoned by soldiers of Prussian or of any other German race; but, if Prussia keeps her troops in Luxemburg, she will, sooner or later, attempt to annex it, and this will bring her into collision with Holland as surely as her occupation of Holstein brought her into collision with Denmark. Of course, Holland could make no permanent stand against so overwhelmingly powerful an enemy as Prussia; but a war with Holland might, all the same, have similar consequences to those which followed the war with Denmark. The agitation on the subject in Holland appears already to be very great. Those who care to know the views of Dutch politicians as to the effect of recent changes in Europe on the fate of the smaller States should read the able pamphlet just published, in French, by Professor Vreede, of the University of Utrecht.

No one in England will be found to complain of the aggrandisement of Italy, as at this moment being effected. Italy is the spoilt child of Europe. After a long period of suffering, she has, on the whole, had things very much her own way for the last ten or twelve years—that is to say, ever since the Crimean War, in which Count Cavour, with the eye of genius, discovered that Sardinia was interested. It would be most untrue to say that Italy has done nothing for herself; but her allies, her neutral friends, and even her enemies, have given her very valuable assistance. France helped materially to free Lombardy, which, indeed, but for France, would at this moment be Austrian. It was not without aid from England that Garibaldi made his celebrated expedition which had the result of placing the Neapolitan kingdom at the feet of Victor Emmanuel. To mortify Austria, Russia, oblivious or unmindful of the fact that a Sardinian army had fought against her in the Crimea, hastened to give the newly-created Italy such support as was implied by a formal recognition. Austria, year after year, refused even to acknowledge the existence of Italy, and insisted on calling it "Sardinia," as Prussia, in the time of Frederick the Great, used to be called "Brandenburg," and as Russia, at this moment, is called by the Poles "Muscovy." But it is from hostile Austria, after all, that Italy has received Venetia. She cannot be said to have taken it from her, for Austria, before giving it up, proved that she was able to hold it by the sword, and that she was more than a match for Italy both by land and by sea. Italy has fought well; she has played her cards well; and, added to this, she has been exceedingly lucky. She has been lucky to such an extent that the Italians apparently believe that there is to be no end to their good fortune. The most exaggerated opinions seem to be held by the poor Venetians as to the good that is to accrue to them from the liberation of their country. Letters from Venice contain extraordinary accounts of workmen giving up their ordinary occupations, in the hope of obtaining employment at higher wages on the advent of Garibaldi, who is fondly expected to arrive at the head of his now disbanded volunteers! Whatever other good the annexation of Venetia to the kingdom of Italy may do, it will not increase the rate of wages to Venetian artisans, while in all probability it will have the effect of increasing the rate of taxation.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, while out shooting, is always attended by a captain of the guards, whose duty it is to observe the effect of each shot and announce it. The Emperor, for instance, strikes a partridge. "Partridge!" cries the Captain. Next time it is a buck. "Buck!" shouts the Captain. One day the Emperor fired, missed his game, and wounded one of the gentlemen of his suite. The latter, on being struck, uttered an exclamation. "His Highness the Duke of Hackenberg!" announced the Captain, without the slightest change of feature or tone.

THE LATE MARQUIS DE BOISSY.

OUR Engraving represents the features of one of the most noted men in France, and one, too, whose name has become familiar to most Englishmen from the professions of hatred with which he spoke of England and her institutions. There are few of our own countrymen now living with whom M. De Boissy could possibly be compared; but people who knew them both trace a great resemblance between his character and that of the eccentric, but warm-hearted and hospitable, Colonel Sibthorpe, whose death was regretted in a similar way to that of M. De Boissy; and of whom there were almost as few memoranda for a complete biography as there are for a life of the deceased French senator.

The name of the Marquis de Boissy has of late years become so familiar to us that one feels almost surprised to find how few materials there are for a biographical sketch. In early youth he served in the army before going for a short time into the diplomatic service. A peer of France under Louis Philippe, he used to skirmish with M. Pasquier, as he did afterwards with M. Troplong. He was connected with some of the best families in France, and had inherited a handsome fortune. He married twice, and his only daughter, who died some months ago at Rome, married the Prince de Léon, of the great family of Rohan-Chabot. His conversation in private was what his speeches were in public—incisive, witty, and not devoid of good sense. He will be much missed in the refined social gatherings of Paris. His house was celebrated for its hospitality, and was the rendezvous of many of the best known literary and political characters; and, strange as it will appear to those who only know him by his ostensible hatred of England, Englishmen were to be found among the welcome guests at his hospitable board.

In England, and, indeed, in France, M. De Boissy was principally known for his animosity towards our country, but the manner in which he testified that feeling was so eccentric and often so humorously extravagant that it may be doubted whether any Englishman ever felt irritated against him on account of it, while hundreds will have read his caustic sallies with intense amusement. Serious resentment was quite out of the question in the case of so witty a railler. Of the country and the people he thus delighted to abuse, and of the political and social institutions of England generally, his notions were very vague. In early life he was for a short time attached to the French Embassy in London, during M. De Chateaubriand's mission, and he was subsequently similarly employed at Rome. It is not certain, however, that, with his peculiar mental constitution, M. De Boissy would have held different views concerning the English, even if he had known them better. His nature was essentially controversial and aggressive; his element was contradiction, and to such a point did he carry his love of that pastime that it has been said of him that, if he had no one else to contradict, he would contradict himself. Extreme in everything, his estimate of the superiority of the French over all other nations on the earth's surface was carried on an extravagant pitch.

But his very extravagance stood him in good stead, for it enabled him to say things in the Senate which not one of his colleagues would have risked, and to criticise men and measures with a boldness unparalleled under the present regime in France. Calls to order were useless, since they only led to smart verbal skirmishes between him and M. Troplong, the President of that illustrious body, and in these the President had by no means always the best of it. M. De Boisy was no orator, nor did he ever pretend to be so considered. He usually spoke on questions of order connected with the rules and regulations of the House, and rarely did he make a set speech on topics of general interest; but his remarks and criticisms, whenever and however introduced, were always cutting and often well founded. In this, his own peculiar fashion, he would say things which made the couriers of the Senate actually look aghast.

The Marquis was of a very old and aristocratic, and extremely wealthy family, originally from Breton. He died on the 26th of last month, at the age of sixty-eight years, and it is said that his last utterance was a witticism.

PEDESTRIANISM AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Under the impression that an athletic contest, in which the competitors for prizes would be amateurs gathered from various social grades, was to take place at the Crystal Palace on Monday, a very numerous assembly, the greater part of which was composed of respectable persons, occupied all the accessible space commanding a good view of the upper terrace, where the racing took place. A number of gentlemen, all of them well known for the personal part they have been accustomed to take in manly exercises, acted as stewards, and imparted a sporting tone to the proceedings not usually characteristic of the entertainments at the Crystal Palace. Thus Mr. C. B. Lawes, Mr. P. M. Thornton, Mr. R. E. Webster, and Mr. J. G. Chambers, represented the University of Cambridge at this "Champion Professional Pedestrian Meeting," as it was called on the front of the "correct card," Mr. E. B. Michell and the Earl of Jersey stood forth on behalf of Oxford; and Mr. C. Guy Pym added his name to the list on the part of the Civil Service. All these gentlemen, assisted by experienced managers of public sports, exerted themselves to the utmost, and with praiseworthy temper and coolness, in the laborious duty of attempting to keep a clear course for the runners in the several matches. The Marquis of Queensberry, who, on the conclusion of the last race, distributed the prizes in the centre transept, expressed a hope that this, the first meeting of its kind, would not be the last in that place. If, however, there be any serious intention of bringing "professional pedestrianism" to the Crystal Palace as a regularly-recurring part of the business there, it will certainly be necessary to make such provisions as have been for a long time efficiently secured at Brompton, Hackney Wick, and other established arenas of pedestrianism. The Crystal Palace public at present is, however, strange to the kind of thing which Lord Queensberry and his friends desire to see established in permanence at Sydenham.

The races, on Monday, were well sustained by men from all parts of the country. The hard gravelled terrace, with its surface of loose pebbles, was not much to their liking, though the best that could be done was done by laying down sand. Spiked shoes seemed to be by no means well adapted to this sort of ground; but on the whole the runners reconciled themselves philosophically enough to the conditions, which, indeed, were alike to all, and could therefore be objectionable to none. The first race was a half-mile free handicap, for three prizes of severally £12, £2, and £1 each, presented by Mr. Thornton. There were four competitors, of whom the winning man was J. Neary, of Hulme; the second being I. Hughes, of Manchester; and the third S. Albison, of Bow. The next event was a handicap race of 150 yards, to be run in three trial heats, and a final heat for deciding. Whatever may have been urged against the character of the ground, the speed attained in these races was something extraordinary, the time taken in covering the 150 yards being about fifteen seconds. Lindsley, of Durham, and W. Brown, of Manchester, won respectively the first and second heats, and the third was a tie between F. Hewitt, of Chatham, and Gavin Tait, of Carlisle. The last-named competitor is a Scotchman—from his accent seemingly a Highlander—and his style of running was peculiar, its singularity being heightened a good deal by the appearance of his legs, which were long in proportion to his body, and remarkable for the muscular development of the thighs. He threw his chest forward and swayed from side to side in running, as, indeed, he did in walking at a slow pace. Among the betters he was an evident favourite, though in the final heat he only succeeded in getting the third place—Brown being first, and Hewitt second. The prizes thus won were severally £25, £4, and £1; and, to save trouble, it may be here stated that the three following trials were for prizes of the same amounts. Mr. C. B. Lawes offered the donations in the case of the one-mile handicap, which was won by W. Bell, of Newcastle; second and third places being respectively gained by I. Hughes and J. Neary. The quarter-mile handicap which ensued was won by F. Hewitt, W. Brown being second, and S. Albison third. Then came the great trial of endurance as well as of swiftness—the race of four miles—for prizes of the amounts above stated, given by the Earl of Jersey. In this race J. Sanderson, of

Whitworth, was to have run, giving 20 yards to Robert M'Instry, of Glasgow, and 250 yards to every man beside. But, as Sanderson did not run, it was M'Instry who, standing 20 yards from scratch, gave 230 yards each to Barney Haydon, of Manchester; Harry Andrews, of Fulham; E. Goulder, of Hackney; and W. Mills, of Mile-end. This last-named runner took, with Andrews, the lead, and very soon succeeded in getting it all to himself. Before the race was half over it was almost a certainty that Mills would be first, M'Instry second, and Haydon third, a long distance lying between them. In fact, the others dropped off; and the Glasgow man, a splendid runner, lessened, but only lessened, the space which at starting had separated him from his most formidable antagonist, having first overtaken in turn Haydon, Andrews, and Goulder. Just as Mills came up to the string he fell back exhausted, though till the very last his signals of distress had been scarcely perceptible when compared with the terrible signs of exhaustion shown by M'Instry and Haydon. The 300-yards' consolation handicap for £7, £2, and £1 concluded the meeting. Gavin Tait won the first prize; T. Wood, of Sheffield, the second; and F. Ford, of Lambeth, the third. On the appearance of the men subsequently on the platform of the Handel Orchestra they were loudly applauded, and Mills was called upon by his admirers to speak. The cries, however, were drowned by the sudden bursting forth of "Non più andrai" from the organ, Mr. Coward having chosen that tune no doubt at random, and not with any purpose of applying Figaro's musical badinage to Mr. Mills.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor, about whose state of health considerable anxiety is felt, is expected to return to Paris on Sunday (to-morrow). On Tuesday the Emperor and Empress went to St. Jean de Luz, and inspected the works in course of erection at that port, and returned in the afternoon to Biarritz.

ITALY.

Peschiera was on Wednesday evacuated by the Austrian garrison, and its keys were delivered over to the Italian authorities. Mantua was to be surrendered on Thursday or Friday, Verona most probably at the end of the week, and Legnago about the same time. Thus passes the grim Quadrilateral, the strongest military network in the world, from the hands of Austria to those of Italy. The King of Italy pays 35,000,000 £. for the war material and stores of the great fortresses, and, free at last to march past their bastions and frowning embrasures, he will enter Venice, it is said, at the head of his Italian regiments somewhere about the 15th of the present month, and that the plebiscite will take place on the 21st inst.

PRUSSIA.

The patent annexing Hanover to Prussia was promulgated in Hanover on Saturday last. The ceremony was accompanied by salvoes of artillery and the ringing of the church bells. The patent declares the annexation to be one result of the righteous war in which Prussia was engaged. It demands obedience to Prussian authority and promises protection to Hanoverian subjects. The annexation is declared to be necessary for the reorganisation of Germany; and the patent assures the Hanoverians that Prussia's acquisitions are the gains of Germany. The ex-King of Hanover, having fulminated his protest against the annexation of his kingdom to Prussia, now relieves all his former subjects from their oaths of allegiance to him.

The formal incorporation of Frankfort, Hesse-Cassel, and Nassau into the Prussian monarchy took place on Monday. The Royal patent of incorporation was read with much ceremony at Frankfort, Cassel, and Wiesbaden. At Frankfort the people received the unwelcome announcement with dull apathy, and without any demonstration of their feelings. A protest has, however, been made by the Senate against the incorporation. At Cassel, on the contrary, the Estates and the people vied with each other in demonstrations of joy, and the ceremony of annexation was marked by great enthusiasm.

The protracted negotiations between Saxony and the Prussian Government at length appear to have terminated. The King is said to have ceded his principal fortress and the command of his army to his inexorable conqueror.

AUSTRIA.

Now that peace is concluded, the Austrians are bestirring themselves to regain their political rights. Last week the Austrian deputies of the Reichsrath met and came to a resolution that the immediate convocation of the Reichsrath was the only effectual means of solving the present Constitutional difficulties.

The Deak party in Hungary demands the appointment of a National Ministry which would agree to the propositions of the Committee of the Diet on the affairs common to Hungary and Austria, would adopt them as their programme, and submit the same to the Diet.

RUSSIA.

The persons said to have been concerned in the late attempt on the life of the Czar have been found guilty of high treason. Ischutin, one of them, was sentenced to death, and fifteen others to be exiled to Siberia.

The champions of "order" do not appear to be quite satisfied with the state of affairs in Poland. At Chełm Bishop Kalinski, of the Greek Church, and most of his clergy, have been arrested and carried away by order of the Russian Government.

TURKEY.

The majority of the members of the Turkish Ministry advocate that diplomatic relations should be broken off with Greece. The Grand Vizier and Ali Pacha are, however, opposed to this step. Apprehensions are entertained of a rising in Thessaly and Epirus.

CANDIA.

From Athens reports continue to come of the successes of the Candiates over the Turks, while, from Constantinople, we hear of further reinforcements of the Turkish army. A decisive battle is shortly expected. The following particulars of one battle come from Candia through Corfu:—"On the 22nd ult. 20,000 Turco-Egyptian troops attacked the Greek camp, which extended from Maleya to Keramia. The Greeks repulsed every onslaught of the enemy's infantry. On the following day the battle was renewed, when the Greeks, who had received a reinforcement of 2000 men, totally defeated the Imperial troops. The latter are said to have lost 3000 men, taken prisoners. The remainder of the Egyptians were taken on board the Turkish squadron near Maleya. The Turkish troops have been again reinforced by the arrival of 8000 Egyptians, seven Turkish battalions, and a considerable force of artillery."

Letters from Athens, dated the 4th inst., state that the telegraph administration had received a notification from Constantinople to the effect that telegrams from Greece relating to Candia would no longer be allowed to pass over the Turkish lines, nor would cipher telegrams be taken at Constantinople for transmission to Greece.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

Prince Stirbey has returned to Bucharest from Constantinople. The negotiations with the Porte continue, but there are difficulties in the way of an agreement. Prince Charles of Hohenzollern demands unconditional recognition as Hospodar of the Principalities.

THE UNITED STATES.

We have advices from New York to the 28th ult. Meetings or conventions were still being held by the rival parties. At one, consisting of soldiers and sailors favouring the Radical policy, General Butler was present, and demanded that General Lee as well as Mr. Davis should be hanged.

Though it is denied that the President has changed his policy with regard to the adoption by the South of the Constitutional

amendment, as had been reported, it is yet believed that he contemplates recommending to Congress some modification of that measure.

There were rumours that the Fenians intend to make a movement along the Vermont frontier. The Canadian military forces were kept ready to move at a moment's notice.

President Johnson had appointed General Dix Minister of the United States to France. Mr. Bigelow had been recalled at his own request.

MEXICO.

Intelligence from Mexico (via San Francisco), dated the 19th ult., states that the French troops and fleet had abandoned Guaymas, and that the town was occupied by the Liberals. The Liberal General Martinez had slaughtered the garrison of Xeres. The Austrian General Launberg had been killed. The Imperialists made an attempt to enforce the blockade of Matamoros.

News from Matamoros to the 20th of September states that Canada had deposed Hianajosa and declared for Ortega. He had also imprisoned General Topea, who was sent by Juarez as Governor of Tamaulipas. Forced loans were declared permanent. A large sum had been levied on Conklin's circus, and this had caused a controversy between the Mexican and Federal authorities. The Emperor Maximilian was at San Luis Potosi, where General Mejia had 900 men preparing to attack Monterrey. The Emperor, it is stated, had made a speech, in which he declared that he would not abandon Mexico.

JAPAN.

Advices from Japan announce the reported defeat of the Tycoon by Prince Choishu.

A treaty of commerce and navigation between Italy and Japan was signed at Jeddo on Aug. 25. It will come into operation on Jan. 1.

THE AUSTRO-ITALIAN TREATY.

The treaty of peace between Austria and Italy was ratified by Italy on Saturday and forwarded to Vienna, where its ratification by Austria took place on Thursday. The conclusion of the treaty has been received with great satisfaction in Austria as well as in Venetia and throughout Italy.

The following are the principal conditions of the treaty:—

The mutual exchange of all prisoners of war.

Austria consents to the union of Venetia with Italy. The frontiers to be ceded to Italy are those which constituted the administrative frontiers of Venetia while under Austrian dominion.

The amount of the debt assumed by Italy is 35,000,000 fl., payable by eleven instalments within a period of twenty-three months. The Monte Lombardo-Venetian is transferred to Italy, with its actual assets and liabilities. Its assets are 3,500,000 fl., and its liabilities, 66,000,000 fl. With regard to the Venetian railways, until a further arrangement is arrived at, the revenues of the railways to the north and south of the Alps will be allowed to accumulate in order to calculate the gross revenue, which should serve as a basis for the valuation of the kilometric guarantee. The contracting parties engage to prepare a convention, in which the railway company would take part, for the separation of the northern from the southern railways, and for the completion of the unfinished railway.

The Venetians residing in Austria are to have the right of preserving their Austrian nationality.

All objects of art, as well as the archives belonging to Venetia, will be restored, without exception. The iron crown of Lombardy will also be given up to Italy.

The treaties which formerly subsisted between Austria and Sardinia will again come into force for one year, during which period fresh arrangements can be concluded.

Another provision of the treaty stipulates for the restitution of the private property belonging to the Italian ex-Princes which has been sequestered by the Italian Government, with the reservation of the rights of the State, or one third.

A complete amnesty will be accorded by both Austria and Italy to all persons condemned for political offences, to deserters from either army, and to persons compromised by their political conduct.

BURIED ALIVE.—At a small German town, a few days ago, the body of a man was being interred, when the gravedigger, throwing in the earth, thought he heard a sound as if two blows had been struck in the coffin. He accordingly informed the clergyman, but this latter, believing that the man was under an illusion, would not allow the coffin to be opened. The matter having come to the knowledge of the authorities the next day, they ordered the exhumation of the body; when the man was found to be alive, but had expired forty-eight hours afterwards.

COLLIERY EXPLOSIONS ARE CAUSED.—Jasper Brock, a miner, for thirteen years employed in a colliery at Fieldhouse, near Huddersfield, belonging to Mr. E. Brooke, was charged on Saturday last with having unscrewed the top of his safety lamp and worked in the pit with a naked light, contrary to the regulations of the colliery. He pleaded "Guilty." It appeared that he was working in the pit within ten yards of a place which was considered dangerous on account of the gas, and where the ordinary danger signals were placed, and he unfastened the top of his safety-lamp and worked with a naked light, although there were in the pit at the time no fewer than sixty-seven men and boys, whose lives he thus placed in jeopardy. A short time ago some colliers from the same pit were fined for a similar offence; but now, at the request of Mr. Dransfield, who prosecuted, the Bench sentenced the defendant to one month's imprisonment, without the option of paying a fine, and observed that a repetition of the offence would lead to the offender being sent to prison for three months.

JUSTICE IN THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.—The *Law Journal*, in an article on the legal constitution of Jersey and Guernsey, draws a very painful picture of the administration of justice in those islands. After describing the nature of the law courts, the writer in the *Journal* proceeds thus:—"Some say that the laws are absurd, that there is no such thing as a good title to an estate, that the debts of bankrupts are paid by legal but unjust and absurd seizures of other men's goods, and whisper even that Jersey gets rid of her criminal population by transporting them to Southampton under terrific threats against their reappearance. Others say that the laws are good enough, but that the Judges are at fault. But the press speaks out boldly. It declares that 'there is great and universal complaint among respectable shopkeepers, that trade is greatly depressed, that there is very little honesty in commercial transactions, and that to seek for redress from the Royal Court is an utter mockery and waste of time, money, patience, and everything else.' Nay, as if to dispense the dream of an earthly paradise which a stranger might have on a visit to the lovely island, it is affirmed that disreputable places of amusement spring up by magic and corrupt the community; that *remises de biens, décrets, arrangements with creditors, fraudulent bankruptcies, and systematic swindlings increase and multiply*. Then there is a frightful list of crimes, arguing strongly the defective administration of criminal justice, among which infanticides, murders, and murderous assaults, ill-treatment and abandonment of wives, bodies found under suspicious circumstances, and fiendish outrages figure in ghastly characters. Indeed, it must be confessed that the last six weeks have displayed an extraordinary catalogue of offences in Jersey, all the direct or indirect results of unrestrained passions. Then there are the charges of drunkenness and immorality, and of all these horrors a journal remarks:—'It is scarcely to be expected that morality should flourish in a community, when men invested with high office, and who ought to be patterns of principle and virtue, are steeped in vice and iniquity, and are patterns of immorality, corruption, and depravity.' We will quote one more passage from the same quarter:—"A merchant was a few days ago telling a friend how thoroughly he had been swindled by a dishonest man. 'Why not bring the rascal up before the Court?' said the friend, 'and get him punished?' 'Bring him before the Court?' retorted the merchant, 'do you think I'm mad? I'd rather submit to any loss than go before that wretched Court.' It was in the same spirit that another gentleman, once a constable, but now a Jurat, when taken to task in the States for not bringing up certain criminals before the Court, muttered something like the following:—"The Court! Pooh! as if there was justice to be had there."

REVIEW OF THE TROOPS AT CHATHAM BY THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

On Tuesday, the 2nd inst., his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge held a review of the whole of the available forces quartered at Chatham, on the fine review-ground, Chatham-lines. His Royal Highness, accompanied by Major-General Lord William Paulet, K.C.B., Adjutant-General; Lieutenant-General Sir J. Hope Grant, G.C.B., Quartermaster-General; Lieutenant-General W. F. Forster, K.H., Military Secretary; Colonel J. F. M. Browne, C.B., Assistant Adjutant-General; Colonel C. Tyrwhitt, Aide-de-Camp,

and other officers from the Horse Guards, arrived at the Chatham railway station by the morning express-train, and, having mounted the horses in waiting, rode direct to Chatham great lines, where the entire force of the garrison was drawn up to receive his Royal Highness. The troops on the ground consisted of the B battery 4th brigade Royal Field Artillery, with their equipment complete; the corps of Royal Engineers, including the whole of the dépôt and other companies now at head-quarters; the 1st Dépôt Battalion, consisting of the dépôts of the first and second battalions of the 1st King's Royals, first and second battalions 15th Regiment, second battalion 17th Regiment, 50th Regiment, and 109th Regiment; the 2nd Dépôt Battalion, which included the dépôts of the first and second battalions of the 2nd Queen's Royals, first and second battalions of the 8th Regiment, 29th Regiment, 30th Regiment, and 106th Regiment; the 3rd Dépôt Battalion, consisting of the first and second battalions 10th Regiment, second battalion of the 14th Regiment, first and second battalions of the 22nd Regiment, 34th Regiment, and 45th Regiment; and the Chatham division of Royal Marines light infantry; the whole under the command of Major-General Sir Robert Walpole, K.C.B. On the arrival of the Duke of Cambridge, attended by a brilliant Staff, on the ground the troops gave the usual salute, with colours lowered, the bands playing the National Anthem. After inspecting the front and rear of each of the lines his Royal Highness took up his position near the flagstaff for the purpose of witnessing the entire force march past the saluting-post, which they did in open columns by grand divisions, the Royal Artillery subsequently going by at the trot, and the other troops marching past in close columns at quick time. The marching of the various corps was exceedingly good; in fact, better marching in grand divisions has been rarely seen by any equal number of men. At the termination of this portion of the day's manoeuvres preparations were made for some operations on an extended scale, with the object of repelling a supposed attack on the garrison by a force landing at the lower lines. After skirmishers had been thrown out from the flank companies the entire force advanced, supported by the Royal Artillery, when the order was given to form squares to resist the supposed advance of the enemy's cavalry. The columns then re-formed and advanced in line, when the entire force poured in a furious fire, the guns of the Royal Artillery doing good service. A number of highly interesting and at the same time somewhat complicated movements followed; after which the troops were re-formed in columns of companies, advanced, and gave a general salute. After addressing the commanding officers, to whom he expressed his general satisfaction with the manner in which both officers and troops had acquitted themselves, his Royal Highness left the lines and proceeded to the newly-established hospital at Brompton, in the inspection of which he was occupied some time. At three o'clock his Royal Highness inspected the whole of the infantry recruits, who were drawn up for that purpose on the general parade-ground, Chatham Barracks. During his inspection his Royal Highness minutely inspected the clothing of the men, with the character of which he expressed himself as being far from satisfied. After going through the canteen at Chatham Barracks, his Royal Highness visited Sir Robert Walpole, at Government House, where he took luncheon; and later in the afternoon went over the works at Brompton, in the formation of which the officers and men of the Royal Engineers have been occupied the entire summer. His Royal Highness and suite left the garrison at five o'clock in the afternoon, under a Royal salute from the guns in the Spur Battery, and proceeded by the express-train to Dover.

THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL, HOLBORN.

A SUDDEN display of interest in an entire novelty was exhibited by the playgoing world on Saturday night which might be庆幸ly compared with that thrill of excitement poetically ascribed to the "patient watcher of the skies" who sees some new planet "swim into his ken." It is so long since an absolutely new theatre was erected in the metropolis that a dramatic notice with a fresh heading, indicative of a previously unheard-of place of entertainment, must quite take by surprise a newspaper reader beyond the reach of theatrical gossip. A generation has passed away since the St. James's was built, by Beazley, for Braham, with the intention of founding an operatic establishment at the West-End. Thirty years have elapsed since the destruction by fire of the Queen's Bazaar in Oxford-street suggested to Mr. Hamlet, the silversmith, the possible increase of profit which might result from appropriating the sight to a theatre; and from that period, though the suburbs have from time to time received the attention of speculative managers, central London, with a vastly augmented population, has had no addition made to the places of exclusively dramatic amusement. The Olympic, rebuilt and enlarged in 1849; the Adelphi, reconstructed in 1858; and the more recent conversion of the old Queen's Theatre in Tottenham-street into the now fashionable Prince of Wales's, are novel only in aspect, and not in situation. On Saturday evening, however, was opened an entirely new edifice devoted to the dramatic art in a part of the town hitherto without any structure of the kind, and affording facilities of recreation to a thickly-inhabited district with no nearer theatres than those belonging to the southern cluster about the Strand, the City theatres to the east, the Princess's towards the west, and Sadler's Wells to the north. A place of amusement is of course not likely to be most honoured in its own locality, and it is very probable that the larger number of its patrons will still consider distance no object; but the advantage of a numerous resident population in the immediate vicinity has no doubt been taken into the careful calculation of Mr. Sefton Parry, who is the sole proprietor and responsible manager of the new theatre. Built on the north side of Holborn, nearly opposite Chancery-lane, and occupying a space of ground including an area of 15,000 ft., chiefly devoted in other days to the stables and coach-houses of the Post Office mail contractors, the Holborn Theatre Royal is a very tasteful example of what can be done in the way of recognising the modern demand for comfort as well as amusement. We have so literally taken our pleasures sadly for so long a period, that it is something akin to a new sensation to find the expansion of our lungs and limbs duly provided for when we sit down to our mental refreshment. The conditions of ventilation and space are here so well observed that the most exacting of visitors can hardly find ground on which to raise a reasonable complaint. The mode of ingress and egress is so simple and effective that the playgoer who enters the new theatre feels that nothing can be more comfortable, except the facility for taking leave of it. The Holborn front affords by a spacious vestibule, fitted up as a conservatory, convenient access to the stalls and boxes; and the pit is reached by a short passage from Brownlow-street, where also is situated the gallery entrance. The size of the theatre approaches most closely to that of the Olympic, but greater space is afforded the audience; and whilst the usual horseshoe form is preserved, the absence of all projections affords from every seat in the house an uninterrupted view of the stage. That the gallery is not so high as its occupants might reasonably require is not the fault of the experienced architects, Messrs. Finch, Hill, and Paraire, but that of the owners of the adjacent house property, who, viewing the rising edifice according to their particular lights, stopped its upward growth by an order from the Court of Chancery. There are three rows of exceedingly commodious stalls, a spacious dress circle, amphitheatre stalls in front of a roomy gallery, and a very comfortable pit, stretching far away under the boxes. There are no proscenium boxes, and the stage is thus left to be inclosed in an elegant frame, which is perhaps seen to the best advantage when the new act-drop, furnished by Mr. Charles S. James, adds by its artistic beauty to the completeness of the general effect. The decorations are of a pale salmon colour, mixed with white relieved with gold, and the appearance of the house, which in various respects will call to mind some of the more modern Parisian theatres, is thus rendered very light and elegant, whilst a neat chandelier, possessing the reflecting properties of the recent improvement known as the "sun-burner," diffuses a sufficient light to exhibit the ornamental devices to the best advantage. Those who find a foot-rule a valuable aid to imagination may derive from this official statement of dimen-

sions a tolerably exact notion of the capacity of the building.—From footlights to the back of pit, 70 ft.; width of pit between walls, 52 ft.; from footlights to back of stage, 67 ft.; width of stage, 52 ft.; proscenium, 26 ft. by 23 ft.; and the height from floor of pit to ceiling, 35 ft.

The capability of the building on each side of the footlights was fairly tested on Saturday night. As soon as the doors were opened, that portion of the house set apart for the audience was eagerly seized upon. A clamorous crowd had long before besieged the pit and gallery portals, and more decorously but hardly less anxiously the possessors of seats in the boxes and stalls came early to assert their claims. Such an assemblage, comprising most of those who take a personal interest in theatrical affairs and a strong representative detachment of the British public, always ready to avail themselves of fresh sources of amusement, promised well for a season so auspiciously commenced. Nor was the proof long wanting that the managerial exertions to be displayed on the other side of the curtain were quite equal to the occasion. A slight farce, in which coat-pockets and stuffed chairs are ruthlessly ripped in search of lost love letters, was felt to be no more the commencement of the programme than the tuning of instruments in the orchestra can be called the beginning of the overture. When, however, Mr. Sefton Parry appeared before the curtain, responsive to a loudly-expressed desire to congratulate the gentleman who had added so tasteful and commanding a structure to the list of metropolitan theatres, it was evident the interest of the evening had really begun. In a brief speech Mr. Parry bade the audience a hearty welcome to his new house, and, in reference to a remark made by some of his friends that he had lodged his theatre in too easterly a locality, uttered an opinion, which the audience readily indorsed, that the people of London would go to a good entertainment wherever it was to be found, and that he meant to invite them with the best that could be obtained. "In this enterprise," said Mr. Parry, "is embarked the savings of my professional life; and I regard with gratified pride my ship, the only one that has been launched in the metropolis for upwards of a quarter of a century. Here I stand alone at the tiller, looking out for the breeze of public favour. I am engaged in a more perilous voyage than the Red, White, and Blue. That little wonder went to sea with two men and a dog; I am alone in my venture. Will you please to take me in tow?" It need scarcely be recorded that to this appeal there was the most cordial response; and when Mr. Parry retired and the orchestra played the National Anthem, as an echo to his proclamation that the Holborn Theatre was formally opened "on the 6th day of October, 1866, and in the thirtieth year of the reign of Victoria the Good," the walls of the building resounded with as hearty a round of cheers as the oldest brick in the longest existing structure could possibly have reverberated. The lessee had previously avowed his belief that no better plan could be adopted for effectually securing the immediate prosperity of his new undertaking than the engagement of Mr. Boucicault to write the opening drama; and the result of the first night would certainly seem to justify adherence to that opinion.

Stimulated possibly by the reflection that the stage of the Holborn theatre is erected on the site of stables and that the performers enter the stage-door from the peculiarly undriven region which has through centuries retained the name of Jockey's-fields, the dramatist has made a sacrifice to what we may, not perhaps irreverently, term the *manes* of the departed inhabitants. In his new racing drama, which is entitled "Flying Scud; or, a Four-legged Fortune," Mr. Dion Boucicault professedly aims at showing "the ups and downs, crosses, double crosses, events, and vicissitudes of life on the turf." The real hero of the drama is a racehorse which bears the name indicated in the title of the play, and the characters by which the hero is surrounded are of the turf, turf. That the horse is a noble animal we have most of us learned in the early days of Mavorhood; but it was reserved for the shrewd discoverer of so many useful things in connection with the stage and the apt appropriator of what will draw, to elevate the noble animal to the position of a stage hero. In the old hippo-dramatic pieces of Astley's, in the days of Ducrow, something of the kind may be recollect; but not even "The High-mettled Racer" can be said to have started on a more brilliant career than "Flying Scud." The drama may not be regarded by stern judges as taking very high rank as a literary composition; but it is so ingeniously constructed as to keep up the attention of the audience by rapidity of incident; and there is one scene in the piece which not only roused the audience of Saturday night to a pitch of enthusiasm never exceeded in any theatre, but which, it is safe to predict, will for months to come furnish all playgoers with a topic for conversation and fill the theatre with fresh relays of excited spectators.

The scene of the first act is laid in the neighbourhood of Doncaster, where we meet with a confederacy of four notorious "legs," known collectively as "the Quadruped," and consisting of Captain Grindley Goodge, the profligate nephew of the late squire of Nobby Hall, and his three disreputable companions, Colonel Mulligan, Mo Davis, and Chouser. The Captain, being in their debt, has invited the three to hear his uncle's will read, which he hopes will secure to him the possession of a large estate. The squire has, however, discarded his nephew, and the property is bequeathed to his trainer, Tom Meredith, whose father had been formerly proprietor of the hall, but whose fortunes had changed through turf vicissitudes. In the stable of Nobby Hall is a young horse called "Flying Scud," in whom Nat Gosling, a veteran jockey, has detected the promise of a Derby winner. There is, however, a serious check to Tom's happiness in an intrigue which he fancies he has detected between Katey Rideout, Nat Gosling's granddaughter, and the profligate Captain; and when young Meredith is being congratulated by Nat on the certain fortune which awaits him in the horse, he hands the grandfather the key of Flying Scud's stable, where he has seen the girl in company with Goodge, and tells him to seek there for the reason he cannot make Katey his wife. In the second act Meredith is a man of fortune in London, recklessly plunging into dissipation to forget his disappointment in love. Flying Scud is the Derby favourite, and Grindley Goodge and his party are certain to lose heavily if he wins. Acting on the supposition that Nat Gosling, who has the care of the horse, harbours a grudge against Meredith for repudiating his granddaughter, they offer him £2000 to let them have access to the stable. Nat takes the bribe; but he contrives to baffle their design by changing the horse for one closely resembling Flying Scud in appearance; and, failing in this part of the plot, they manage to hocus the jockey appointed to ride the favourite. Old Nat Gosling is driven to despair by the discovery, which is only made a few minutes before the race begins; but on the impulse of the moment he flings off his coat, dons the jockey's cap and jacket, leaps into the saddle, and brings Flying Scud home the Derby winner. It is this scene which constitutes the marked feature of the drama. For the incident leading up to it Mr. Boucicault is probably indebted to the "Clement Lorrimer" of the late Mr. Angus Reach; but if the dramatist has opened "The Book with the Iron Clasp," he has certainly enriched it with the most valuable of illustrations. The Derby Day is depicted on the stage with a faithfulness of colouring and an elaboration of detail which might induce the spectator to believe himself on Epsom Downs, and the excitement attending the mimic race is scarcely less intense for the time than that of the real event. To increase the illusion the actual itinerants are brought upon the scene; and whilst the stage is crowded with a mob of well-dressed supernumeraries, we have the veritable man with the monkey, the genuine troop of negro serenaders and professional acrobats, and Punch and Judy for auxiliaries. The shout of delight with which the act-drop descended on this exciting scene was one of the most spontaneous tributes of applause ever bestowed by an enthusiastic audience, and was fairly won by the skill with which the situation is contrived and the admirable completeness of all the stage arrangements. The climax of the story is now reached, and what follows is of comparatively little interest. The conspirators, driven to the utmost shifts, try, in the third act, to regain some money by cheating Meredith at cards, and by forging the signature of Lord Woodbie. Playing at a club, both Goodge and Davis are detected cheating by Lord Woodbie, who exposes them. A duel is consequently necessary,

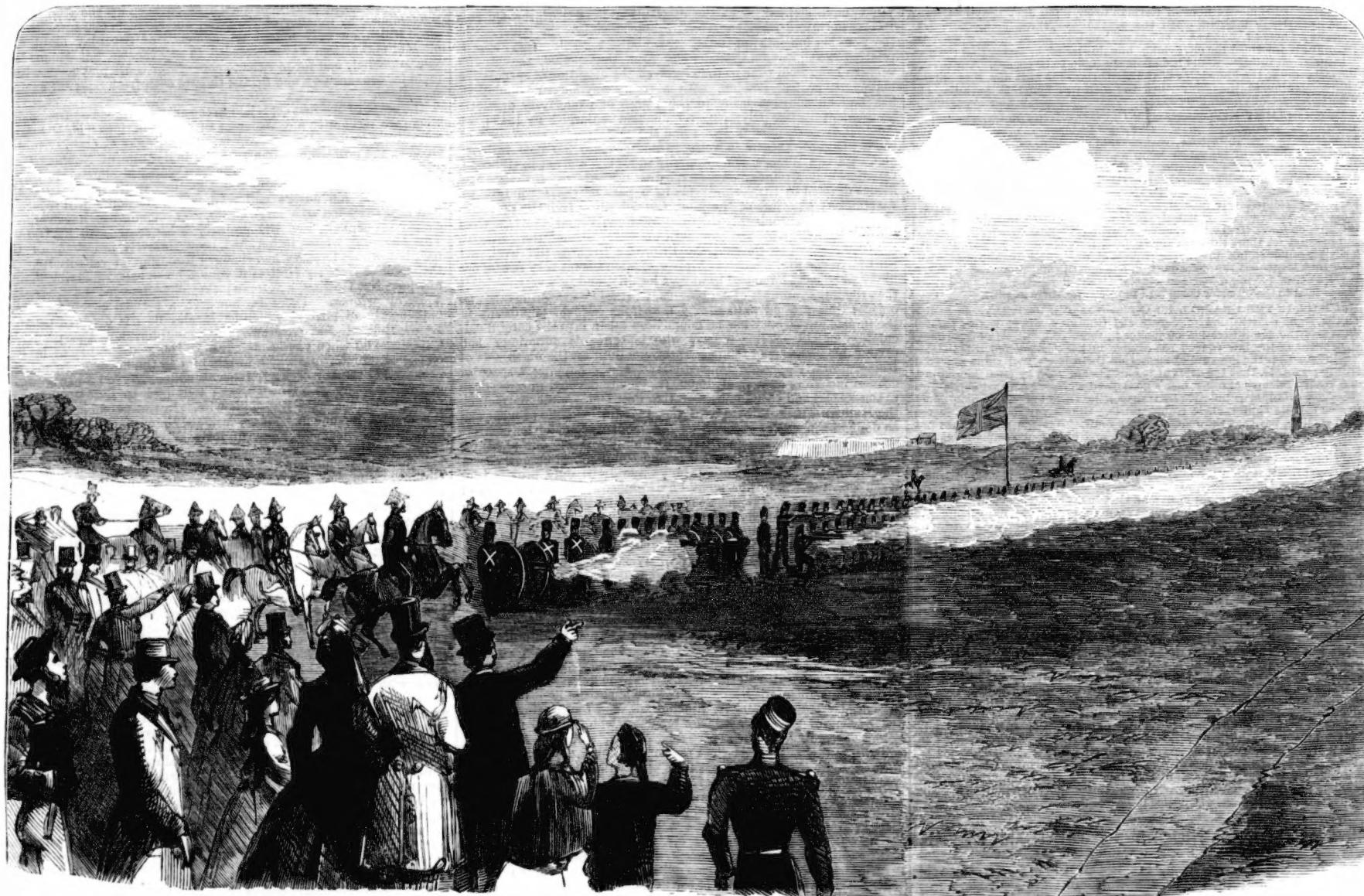


SCENE FROM "FLYING SCUD," AT THE NEW THEATRE, HOLBORN: THE DUEL ON CALAIS SANDS.

and a meeting is arranged to take place on Calais Sands. Goodge, who is a dead shot, determines to kill the young nobleman, as when he is dead a forgery that has been committed upon him cannot be detected. Julia, overhearing the arrangement which has been pro-

jected by her uncle and Goodge, determines to thwart it. She contrives that Lord Woodbie shall mistake the hour of meeting, dis- guises herself in his semblance, and receives the fire of Goodge, falling wounded.

The ultimate fate of the personages in the piece we cannot afford space to follow. We may briefly explain, however, that young Meredith is at last assured of the fidelity of his sweetheart, and that the blacklegs are ignominiously exposed and justly punished.



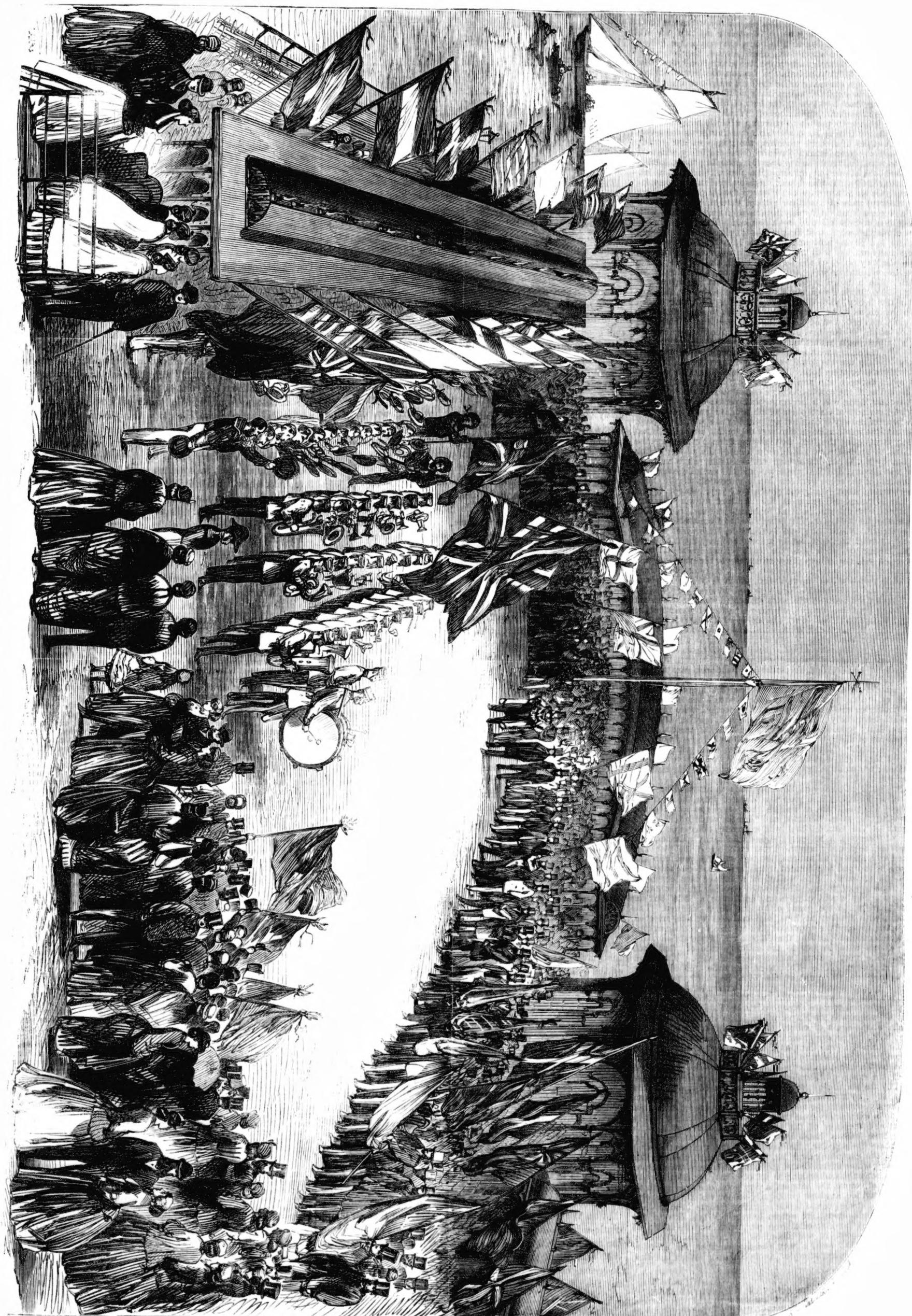
GRAND REVIEW OF THE TROOPS AT CHATHAM.

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OPENING OF THE WEST PIER, BRIGHTON.

THE NEW PIER AT BRIGHTON.

On Saturday last "London-super-Mare" was crowded to excess, the attraction being the interesting public ceremony of opening the new pier. Even without the additional hundreds of holiday-makers who were poured into the place by several excursion-trains, Brighton might have been pronounced tolerably full. There was a time when people used to talk slightly of "Brighton out of season;" but Brighton is now coming more and more to resemble a tropical tree which knows no season, which flourishes perennially, and bears bud, and blossom, and ripe fruit together in clustering magnificence, all the same in January as in June. The glare, the bustle, the gaily-thronged footpaths, the wheel-worn carriage-ways, the tempting shops, the handsome terraces and squares, the bracing sea breeze, the excellent fruit, the delicious prawns, the fashion, the bow-windows, the beauty, the nags cantering under the light weight of their side-saddles and golden-ringedled riders, the sparkling ocean, with "a hundred bathing-machines kissing the hem of his blue raiment," to quote, perhaps imperfectly, the author of "Vanity Fair"—these are a few of the local traits that go to make up a bewitching ensemble which Brighton still may boast above all her fair sister-scenes by the sea. A cloud of modern tradition, the gossip of our grandmothers' and our grandfathers' juvenile days—a history which is half fictitious and half real—hangs over this gleaming town, so that we somehow look at every object through a pleasant medium, which refracts it fancifully. In this respect Brighton excels all rival watering-places; for since the days of "George the Magnificent" there has been always more of a settled, homely, determinate association about the place than is by any means a common quality with the countless resorts of the health-seeker. Everybody knows "heaps of people" who live at Brighton—not pitching metaphorical tents there, but paying rent and taxes for regular residences, built of bricks and furnished with tangible cabinetwork and upholstery; and the shadowy forms of the novelist's brain, the puppets of his intellectual raree-show, wave and mingle in one's recollection of Brighton "like a faded tapestry." It is almost as natural, in passing the comfortable entrance of the Old Ship, to think of Rawdon and Becky, and George and Amelia, and their friend Captain Dobbins, as it is to give ear and attention to some inhabitant of the place who tells you of his having seen poor Mrs. Fitzherbert's coffin hoisted out of the first-floor window of that stucco-fronted house with the plain pillars, hiding back in a corner of the Old Steyne. The sun shines with a commendable frequency at Brighton; and very dazzling are the town and the sea when the full flood of light trembles over them both. Even last Saturday, when it was a drawn battle between sun and fog, and the "blue raiment" of the ocean looked as if the colour had gone out of it with constant wear in all weathers, there was a pervading and perfect exemption from that *triste* heaviness of atmosphere which fastens upon some English spots whenever the sky is overcast and the horizon is dim. Indeed, a proof that the weather was not so very deplorable may be adduced in merely mentioning the fact that photographic pictures, by the instantaneous process, were taken, from one of the towers of the new pier, by Mr. W. H. Mason and his assistants, while the procession was moving, and that these attempts to record the features and incidents of the scene were completely successful.

The structure itself is a great ornamental improvement to the town, the lightness and grace of the ironwork showing the full capability of such designs, both as to beauty and use. The entire length of the pier is 1115 ft. It is approached from the shore by a noble abutment, 290 ft. long and 140 ft. wide, from which level to the second portion the descent is by a broad and easy flight of steps, with an incline on each side for bath chairs, perambulators, and wheeled vehicles of any kind admitted to the pier. A fine promenade of gravel laid upon bitumen, 560 ft. long and 55 ft. wide, leads to the pier-head, or seaward end, which is 310 ft. long and 140 ft. wide, and is remarkable for a new and admirably convenient device. Along the backs of the seats are roofed weather-screens of plate glass in light iron frames, affording a perfect shelter from the wind and spray. The pier-head has an area of 39,000 ft., and at each of its four corners is an ornamental tower, two similar edifices adorning the abutment also. These structures—six in all—assist in giving the pier an imposing aspect, viewed from any point, and they will doubtless be found of practical service besides; though the main advantages of construction, for which the engineer, Mr. Eugene Birch, will have earned the gratitude of every frequenter of this marine promenade are in the glass wind-screens already noticed. Heedless of sudden gust and shrill, sleety squall, the loungers have only to choose his screen and sit under its protection, while the view remains uninterrupted open to him on all sides. It may be mentioned that the ordinary process of pile-driving has been dispensed with in the foundation of the new pier, the iron pillars being screwed into the rocky seabed. This operation was first tried with perfect success, by Mr. Birch, two or three years ago, we believe for the pier at Deal; but at all events, for some pier of which this eminent engineer was the designer.

The inaugural ceremony on Saturday last was attended by large crowds of spectators, whose gaze was directed from the decks of yachts and pleasure-boats, as well as from every standpoint which neighbouring balconies, windows, and terraces could afford. The vast front of the Grand Hotel was especially observable for its number of observers, who gaily peopled the many galleries, one over another, to dizzy height. From end to end the pier was decorated with flags of all nations. At ten minutes past two the procession, which had been formed at the pier-head, began to march towards the abutment. First walked in a line the chief constable and the inspectors of police. The band of the 68th Light Infantry, discoursing brazen music, came next; and quite a little Birnam wood of banners hid the guard of honour which followed. The coastguard, with muskets in hand and cutlasses by side, marched sturdily after, making the suspended floor tremble with their tramp-tramp, which marked excellent time, albeit the inveterate carelessness of sailors with respect to the military rule of "left foot first" led to a very curious indiscrepancy of step. The band of the 1st Sussex Rifle Volunteers, a little too distinctly within hearing of the band of the 68th Regiment, then came playing a quick march, with spirited determination not to sink in the sea of sound. The workmen, carrying banners, made a properly conspicuous show in advance of the municipal body, foremost of whom was the Mayor of Brighton in his scarlet robe, gold chain, and insignia of office. The Recorder of Brighton, Mr. J. Locke, M.P., the borough members, the directors and chief officers of the Brighton Railway Company, and the contractors, engineer, and officers, with the chairman and directors, of the Brighton West Pier Company, brought up the rear of this procession. From the centre of the raised platform of the abutment addresses were delivered by the Mayor; by Mr. Henry Moor, the chairman of the Pier Company; by Mr. William Coningham, and by other gentlemen of prominent position in the neighbourhood of Brighton. A banquet brought to a satisfactory close the ceremonial proceedings; and in the toasts and speeches of the evening due honour was paid to all who have had a hand in the erection of the new pier, among these being Mr. Laidlaw, one of the contractors; Mr. Birch, the engineer; and Mr. W. H. Simpson, the solicitor and secretary, whose energetic and indefatigable labours have helped so much to bring the undertaking to an efficiently practical result. As a matter of course, the banquet, a very good one, was given in the famous Pavilion, at whose grotesquely-solemn violations of architectural taste and the general fitness of things, people in these days of popular enlightenment are agreed to grin. When, late in the evening, the new and graceful iron pier, with no affectation of recollective style about it, was illuminated by many lamps and by portfires of different hues, a very pleasing contrast was afforded to the extravagant gimcrackery of Kubla Khan's mistaken imitator, Georgius Rex.

PRINCE NAPOLEON and suite arrived in Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Roads on Sunday morning, on board the screw-yacht Prince Jerome. The Prince landed at the quay at Yarmouth, and shortly afterwards left, in a carriage and pair, for Lambert's Hotel, Freshwater Bay. The yacht proceeded on to Southampton, where she arrived the same afternoon.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1866.

STOCK TOPICS OF THE "DULL SEASON."

THE Parliamentary recess is usually regarded as the "dull season" of journalism. Then is there a lack of subjects for discussion in leaders and in correspondents' letters. Then do topics, ignored in busier times, receive unwonted attention. Then do a host of grievances demand redress which are pooh-poohed all the rest of the year. Then do editors read, and, what is more, publish, letters which under other circumstances would be consigned, almost unopened, to the waste-paper basket. Then do some sensible, but modest, men obtain a hearing whose voices would be drowned in the clamour of more bustling seasons. But then, too, do many bores abuse the good nature of both the journalist and the public by riding to death certain previously sadly-spavined hobbyhorses, which, however, will yet insist upon thrusting their noses "mang better folk."

Though bores and mock grievances, however, do much abound in the dull season, still that is the only period when many questions of vital importance have a chance of being thoroughly ventilated; and for that reason we should almost be inclined to wish that the dull season lasted "all the year round." The brief and transient prominence given to such subjects is not sufficient to fix them in men's minds and to ensure that they shall have action taken upon them. Social sores are exhibited for a moment to the public eye, and are then covered up again and forgotten ere any measures can be devised for their cure. People take a peep at the mirror in which are displayed their faults, foibles, follies, and shortcomings, and then go their ways, immediately forgetting what manner of men, and especially what manner of women, they are. The remonstrances of the public censor fail of producing beneficial effects, not because they are addressed to unwilling ears, but because they are not repeated sufficiently often and continued sufficiently long to really awaken the public conscience and compel that attention which seldom fails to be yielded to persistent importunity. Some of the grievances and abuses which always crop up in the newspaper dull season, and which are really deserving of attention and redress, have already engaged attention and received a certain measure of consideration. Lest, however, they should again sink prematurely out of notice, we will do what little we can from time to time to keep a few of them, at least, before the public eye.

Not least important among the topics which have of late engaged public attention are those connected with the supply of animal food to this great metropolis. The dearness of meat, and the causes of that dearness, we must let pass for the present; but the treatment bestowed upon the animals which are destined to supply nourishment for our own bodies comes directly within the scope of our remarks, and deserves a word of notice. That gross cruelties are perpetrated by drovers and others connected with the cattle trade is beyond dispute. We need not stop to prove the case by adducing instances. The real points to be considered are, who is to blame? and, how can the mischief be prevented? Now, in the first place, while we admit that a great deal of the evil arises from the brutal instincts of the drovers, and is perfectly unnecessary, we have no hesitation in saying that much of the brutality of the drovers is the result of the evil example set them by those who are supposed to be their superiors, and who therefore ought to know better and to act differently. Man is an imitative animal, and the lower types of the race will always model their conduct after that of those immediately above them. And in accordance with this rule we say that the drovers, in maltreating the poor creatures committed to their charge, are only emulating the example of cruelty set before them by the authorities of the Metropolitan Cattle Market, the trustees of all the highways which converge upon London, the owners and commanders of cattle-ships, and, indeed, all concerned in the trade in cattle. The only respect in which the conduct of the "brutal" drover differs from that of his "bettters" is this, that whereas his cruelty is active, theirs may be described as passive. *He* goads the poor animals to madness; *they* drive them to the same state by depriving them of the food, water, air, and space necessary to healthful existence. By whose fault is it, we ask, that in the market in Copenhagen-fields, that on the roads leading to that market, and that on board cattle-ships, there is no adequate provision made for supplying the natural wants of the cattle and sheep huddled together in each and all of these places? Why is it that no water is provided on the roads, in the ships' holds, nay, even in the market itself, for the purpose of assuaging the burning thirst engendered by long travel under specially inconvenient circumstances? There is no continuous flow of water into the few troughs—and they are much too

few—placed within the market precincts; and, as we have ourselves seen, several of those troughs are often in so foul a state that even animals perishing of drought could hardly partake of their contents. The parties to whom the Corporation of London delegate the management of the cattle market are responsible for this state of things, and when they so grossly neglect their duties, and so inflict unnecessary hardship, can we wonder that rough, rude, ignorant drovers should emulate their example, and perpetrate cruelties on their own account? When reform is begun at the top, it will, perhaps, also reach the bottom of the scale; but not till then. Let us, by all means, punish recalcitrant drovers; but let us begin by first punishing those who set them an evil example; and these, undoubtedly, are the drovers' masters and superiors.

But this question of cattle treatment suggests another and a wider topic; and that is the propriety and necessity of having live-cattle markets in large towns at all. On this subject a decided opinion has already been expressed in these columns; but the point is one which will well bear further insisting upon. In these days of rapid communication between one place and another, there seems no more real necessity for intramural cattle-markets and intramural slaughter-houses than there is for intramural cabbage-gardens. Vegetables can be furnished to the metropolis as required, the supply from day to day being regulated in accordance with the consumption; and the same thing is practicable as regards dead meat, as, indeed, has been demonstrated since the imposition of the restrictions adopted in consequence of the ravages of the cattle plague. London has been mainly dependent upon the dead-meat markets for its supply during the last twelve months, and London has not been altogether starved during that period. What is possible temporarily, is possible permanently; what is practicable under exceptional circumstances, is practicable under all circumstances. The matter is settled: we can do without live-cattle markets. There is therefore no necessity for our sensibilities being still outraged by the brutalities perpetrated upon poor dumb animals as they are driven along the streets; we need no longer be compelled to consume meat bruised, battered, and fever-tainted by those brutalities; and we may henceforth be delivered from the foul atmosphere engendered by badly-kept private slaughter-houses. These are reforms for the attainment of which it is worth while making some efforts at all times, and particularly in this the "dull season," when the voice of remonstrance has a chance of being listened to.

We had noted some other topics for comment under the heading we have adopted for this article; but these we must reserve for other opportunities.

THE EMPRESS OF MEXICO.—There appears to be no doubt that the Empress of Mexico has become insane. Her Majesty's reason has been unable to sustain the disappointments with which she has met since she came over to Europe. Strangely enough, along with this piece of news comes another, which is said to have been received at the Mexican Legation in Paris. It is in the form of a despatch from the Emperor Maximilian, in which he desires it to be made known that his Ministry is definitely constituted, and that things are assuming a more peaceful and settled aspect in Mexico. This is hardly in accordance with the statements which reach us through the ordinary channels.

A NEW WAISTBELT FOR SOLDIERS.—A Belgian, M. Heermans, has produced a waistbelt for soldiers which seems as if it would be of great utility if worn generally in the army. After an engagement or a battle the position of the wounded should be considered, who, for want of prompt attention or dressing to their wounds, often lie without assistance, exposed to the heat or the cold, in a state likely to produce gangrene. This belt buckles on like an ordinary one. It is about 4 ft. long and 3 in. wide. It is folded outside so as to receive bandage of the same length as the belt. Near the buckle are two small pockets made of indiarubber, inclosing a second bandage, some lint, plaster, pins, &c. The soldier wears it on his trousers, and the whole weighs only about 3 oz. In many cases the soldier will be able to dress his own wounds, whilst in other cases he will be attended to by his comrades. Once the first dressing applied, the belt will serve as a bandage for the leg or the body, or a scarf for the arm. This belt, of an infinitesimal weight, and which only costs 1f., can in nowise hinder the movements of the soldier, and, in fact, would be a kind of support to him.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PASSENGERS AND GUARDS ON RAILWAYS.—The directors of the Great Western Railway Company are about to establish a system of communication between passengers, guards, and drivers, in connection with the trains upon their line. An apparatus for an experimental train is being constructed under the direction of the inventor, Mr. C. Spagnoletti, the company's telegraph engineer. Mr. Spagnoletti forms his connections between the carriages by means of iron bars, as substitutes of the existing coupling-chains, the bars answering the double purpose of coupling-chains and electrical connections, thus avoiding extra duty for the men and dispensing with all fine and delicate appliances liable to damage. The bars are so made as to yield to the movements of the train when oscillating or turning curves. A check is also placed upon the coupling of the carriage; and, if not completely performed, the new system gives notice of the fact to the guard by the ringing of a bell in his van. The apparatus attached to each compartment of a carriage consists of a handle inside and a red disc outside. The handle is secured from accidentally turning by a metallic pin attached by a chain. A passenger wishing to call the attention of the guard must pull out the pin and turn the handle; and this operation will have the effect of ringing all the bells in the train continuously, while the disc outside will be turned into a position facing the guard and driver, so that they can see from which compartment the alarm was given. The handle when turned becomes locked, and can only be placed in its original position by the guard, so that any unnecessary use or tampering with the apparatus will be brought home to the offender. By Mr. Spagnoletti's system passengers can communicate with the guard and driver, and guards can communicate with each other and the driver. Although the signal made by a passenger will be visible to the driver, it will only call the attention of the latter to something wrong. The control of the train will still remain with the guard, who will stop it, if required, by giving the ordinary flag or lamp signals to the driver.

THE RUSSO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.—The Russian papers publish a detailed account of the proceedings of the Russian engineer-in-chief, M. Abaza, and three American engineers—Captain Meyhood, Lieutenant Busch, and Lieutenant Kennan—who were instructed to survey the line of country through which the Russo-American telegraph is to be constructed. The party started from Petropavlovsk on the 8th of August of last year, and succeeded, after many difficulties, in tracing the exact course of the future telegraph. At last, says a letter in the *Poste du Nord*, "the surveys have been completed from Anadyrsk to the Amoor, a distance of 6000 versts, and the direction of the line has been determined. This immense task has been executed by the chief of the expedition and three engineers, in the course of a dreadful winter, during which they have had to contend against incredible difficulties, traversing day and night deserts, sometimes mounted on reindeer, sometimes drawn by dogs, but more frequently travelling on foot with the aid of snow-shoes, always accompanied by fierce hurricanes and dreadful frosts. As soon as the Sea of Okhotsk shall be free, vessels belonging to the telegraphic company are expected to arrive at Guigiga from America with the necessary materials for commencing the works immediately. These ships will also bring a number of Yakoute labourers, who are already hired for the works, which will be actively pushed on from the Amoor to Behring Strait. Already between Okhotsk and Anadyrsk the works have been commenced, with the assistance of the inhabitants of the country, who are engaged in constructing houses and trimming trees to serve as telegraph poles. Considering the persevering and indefatigable activity of the chiefs of the expedition, there is reason to expect that within three years from the present time the works will be finished, and this difficult but noble undertaking will be entirely and successfully completed."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE KING AND QUEEN OF DENMARK are expected at Marlborough House in the course of next week. Their Majesties will spend a fortnight in London and will afterwards go to Sandringham, where the King will join a shooting party invited by the Prince of Wales to meet him.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA has notified his intention of at once relinquishing the title of King of Lombardy and Venetia.

THE BETROTHAL OF PRINCE ALBERT OF PRUSSIA, a nephew of the King, with Princess Mary of the Netherlands, his cousin, is to take place shortly. The Prince is the last unmarried member among the adults of the Royal family, which, exclusive of children under age, consists of eight males and eleven females. The Austrian Royal family is more than twice as strong.

CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORNE has been nominated a member of the Ordnance Select Committee, vice Captain Key.

THE AUSTRIAN ADMIRAL TEGETHOFF is coming to England to study the organisation of the British Navy.

VICTOR HUGO has, it is said, just completed another romance, entitled "1793."

SIR MORTON PETO does not intend to retire from the representation of Bristol, as was reported.

MR. MAGUIRE, M.P., has embarked for America, at the instance of Messrs. Longman and Co., the publishers, with whom he has contracted for the publication of a history of the Irish in that country.

ABOUT TWELVE HUNDRED BRITISH VOLUNTEERS have gone to Brussels to take part in the competition for prizes in the Belgian Tir National.

BYRON'S "DON JUAN" has just been translated for the first time into French verse.

SPAIN has accepted the good offices of France and England in her difference with Chili.

GENERAL LA MARMORA, now in Florence, is busy drawing up a detailed and critical account of the military operations of the late campaign.

THE CIVIL SERVICE CLUB AND THE CLARENCEON are to be amalgamated.

THE BANQUET TO MR. BRIGHT AT DUBLIN is fixed for the 30th inst. The hall in which the dinner is to take place will seat 1500 persons.

A LARGE JACK, weighing about 163 lb., was caught, in the latter part of last week, by the Rev. Mr. Wolley, of Eton College, in the Thames, above Surly Hall.

LORD ELCHO, as a distinguished rifleman, has received the decoration of Commander of the Order of Leopold of Belgium.

MRS. DALLAS, better known to the general public as Miss Glyn, will, in the course of November, give six Shakspearian readings at the Hanover-square Rooms.

MR. BRIGHT has declined an invitation to a reform demonstration which will be held at Aberdeen on the 17th inst., and has, at the same time, stated his inability to accept further engagements than those he has already made.

MR. ROBERTSON GLADSTONE has declined the invitation of the Liberal electors of Derby to allow himself to be put in nomination for that borough at the next election.

MR. THOMAS YOUNG, an English gentleman, has been appointed to the chair of English literature in the Queen's College, Belfast, vacant by the death of the late Professor Craik.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON are now giving compensation to the poor families who were recently evicted from Lower Union-court, Holborn.

THE EXECUTION OF JEFFERY, the St. Giles's murderer, took place at the Old Bailey on Tuesday morning. The culprit made a full confession of his guilt, and died apparently penitent.

AN ELDER BROTHER of the late Sir A. J. D. Tichborne is stated to be on his way from Australia to claim the baronetcy. He has been away from England many years, and was supposed to be dead.

THE RAILWAY between Calcutta and Bembay is about 1000 miles long, and is traversed by trains in about four days. The only through traffic at present consists of mails and cargo. European passengers cannot travel the whole distance on account of the heat.

THE RACE FOR THE CESAREWITCH came off on Tuesday, at Newmarket, and resulted in the success of Lecturer, which stood third in the betting. The horses which were second, third, and fourth in the betting were the first three past the post.

THE BOYS' REFORMATORY in the New Forest has been established now nearly thirteen years. Up to last year 117 boys had left the reformatory, of whom it was known that 102 were getting an honest living and were likely to turn out worthy members of society.

THE RECEIPTS of Mdme. Ristori's first night's performance in New York were 3100 dols., of which she gets 1000 dols., and 2100 dols. go to the manager and to paying advertising, bills, and other expenses.

THE FRIENDS OF THE LATE CANON STOWELL have determined on erecting a memorial to him. It will take the form of a church, parsonage-house, and schools—the site selected being at the corners of Cross-lane and Regent-road, Salford. The church is to contain seats for 700 people, and its cost will be about £7000.

A FRENCH GENTLEMAN who left Vera Cruz by the last Royal mail packet died before he reached St. Thomas. On opening his baggage to ascertain who he was, in order to communicate with his friends, despatches for the Empress of Mexico and for several European Governments were found amongst his papers.

A MEETING OF THE SENATE OF THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN IRELAND took place, on Saturday last, in Dublin, when the supplemental charter, admitting the Catholic University into the system of the Queen's University, was accepted by a majority. Sir Robert Peel, who was opposed to this step, was present, and the debate was animated.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT has taken the first step towards the abolition of slavery, in liberating all blacks who should be landed on the territory of the Peninsula. The publication of the decree relative to this measure has been followed by the appointment of a commission, presided over by Señor Candido Nocedal, a member of the Cortes, charged to study the reforms required in the penal legislation of the colonies.

THE GRAND DUKE OF HESSE-DARMSTADT has issued two patents, the one releasing from their oaths of allegiance and fidelity those of his subjects belonging to the Darmstadt territory which has been ceded to Prussia, and the other taking formal possession of the portion of territory acquired by Hesse-Darmstadt pursuant to the treaty of peace.

THE HEAD OF CARDINAL RICHELIEU, which was preserved apart from his body, has been discovered in the possession of an ancient family of Bretagne. It appeared to be in a wonderful state of preservation. The Emperor is said to have taken great interest in its recovery, and it is now deposited with the Minister of public instruction.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION OF DENMARK, granting full liberty of worship, provides that no one is to be compelled to contribute to the support of a Church of which he disapproves, but that every individual who does not show that he is the member of some religious community in the country must pay towards public education the personal contributions imposed by the law in favour of the national Church.

MR. ROBERTS, the presiding Judge of the High Court at Delhi, had decided a case, when he was startled by seeing a lighted torch held over his head by some one in the court. On inquiry, he found it was the losing party in the suit just decided, who said great injustice had been done to him, and he was now holding a torch to enlighten the Court and enable them to administer justice. The culprit was heavily fined.

THE REV. CANON O'NEAL, administrator of the Roman Catholic Cemetery, Kensal-green, has issued a notice stating that many complaints having been made by the inhabitants of Kensal-green and Harrow-road of the "disorderly and disreputable" conduct of the crowds who accompany funerals to the cemetery, the trustees, knowing the truth of these complaints, have determined to discontinue funerals on Sundays on and after Sunday last, the 7th inst.

THE LATE JUDGE F.—, of Connecticut, was not remarkable for quickness of apprehension. At a certain time Mr. R. W. Sherman was arguing a case before him, and in the course of his remarks Mr. Sherman made a point which the Judge did not at once see. "Mr. Sherman, I would thank you to state the point so as I can understand you." Bowing politely, Mr. Sherman replied in his bluntest manner, "Your Honour is probably not aware of the task you are imposing upon me."

THE GOVERNMENT have decided upon making another effort to effect the release of the Abyssinian prisoners. Mr. Flad is the gentleman chosen to proceed on this arduous and dangerous mission. He will bear an autograph letter from the Queen, and Colonel Merewether, who will accompany him as far as Massowah, will carry out a number of splendid presents, which, it is hoped, will conciliate the Imperial barbarian.

FALL OF A CHURCH TOWER.—TWENTY MEN INJURED.—In order to improve the appearance of the Roman Catholic church at Stockholm, subscriptions had been raised for the construction of a massive tower, which was approaching completion. The other day the structure suddenly fell to the ground, burying in its ruins a number of workmen, twenty-one of whom were horribly mutilated. The King and Queen were full of attentions to the victims of this unfortunate accident, and their example was followed by all classes of the population. The disaster caused a reconciliation between many persons until then widely separated; and the Protestant minister, Mr. Stach, went to the Catholic Bishop and offered the use of his church. The proposal was accepted, and on the following Sunday the Bishop officiated in the Lutheran building. Many Protestants had joined the Catholics to show their friendly sympathy with them.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

"YOU'RE welcome to town again; but what brings you here at this dull season?" said I, touching the shoulder of my friend Blogg, whom I caught up in Piccadilly. "Ah! my friend Lounger. By Jove! I am glad to see you," he replied, turning sharply round. "I am from the north, and have only stopped a day or two here to transact some trifles of business." "Lost nothing by the panic?"

"Not a sou. Never was near the Stock Exchange in my life. But, I say, what havoc there has been! Egad! I know a dozen fellows who have been hit severely. Do you know Colonel T——?" "Yes." "By Jove! he's stumped. That man had as good as £7000 a year, and lived like a Lord. Well, he wanted to make it £12,000; and now he has not £500. I hear that he is off to the south of France, where he has taken a house at £20 a year. But, tell me, what are you doing here?—hunting for news, as usual?" "Yes; and find it, like your Scotch grouse, rather shy." "Very likely; but you are a capital hand at making a little go a great way. I have often laughed to see what a lot of soup you can make out of a few bones."

"Tis my vocation, that. But, tell me, have you heard who the Conservatives mean to put up for Colchester? They won't have Papillon, I am told." "No; they are tired of him. He put a stop to some annual junkettings in front of his house, and of course made himself unpopular. And then he is High Church, and that don't please the Low Church; or else he is Low Church, and don't please

"High Church; I hardly know which." "And is he not poor?"

"Ah! that, I suspect, is the head and front of his offending. But his father cannot be poor, for that's a great estate of his at Crowhurst, near Battle. But there is a large family, and the old man cannot be expected to shell out a thousand or two every three or four years for election expenses." "I have heard that Ingestre is to be invited." "So have I; and, as he wants to get into Parliament, I think he will take the bait." "He will do capitally, I fancy; for Colchester is rather a snobbish town and loves a Lord; and it is a commercial town, and he is a trader." "A trader! what do you mean?"

"Why, don't you know that he is chairman of the Cistern Filter Company?" "Is that true? A Talbot a trader—the illustrious descendant of old John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, a dealer in filters! You are surely joking?" "Not at all. But why not, Mr. Blogg? Did Ingestre ever do anything so useful in his life before as giving us pure water? Besides, he is not singular. Does not the Marchioness of Londonderry sell us coals, and is not Lord Leigh at the head of a co-operative woollen manufactory?"

"Well, all I can say is, it's a changed world since the Suffolk gentleman refused to admit Whitbread to a ball because he was a brewer." "Yes; and now his granddaughter is married to the Earl of Leicester, and his grandson to a daughter of the Earl of Chichester." "True; and a carpet-weaver is a Baronet and a member of Brooks's, and a dealer in slates is made a peer; and soon, I suppose, we shall see fustian jackets in Parliament. It's a mad world, my masters! I suppose men will refuse a coronet soon as they now refuse a knighthood, because it is vulgar; and knights will be as common as esquires."

"But pray tell me," said Blogg, "Does Colonel Luke White go down to Tipperary?" "Yes; his address is out." "Well! that is the queerest affair that I have heard of for a long time. A few days ago he openly declared that he would not stand for the world. I heard that his address is out, but I could not believe it; and now I suspect that it must be a hoax got up by those Tipperary fellows." "Will he get in if he stands?" "I doubt it. It is a queer place, that Tipperary. The Colonel is, of course, a Protestant, and the priests have enormous influence there. If money, though, will carry it, money will be poured out like water. I wish you had the money which Lord Annaly has spent to get this unlucky son of his into Parliament. He first got in for Longford county, without opposition, in 1861; but when he went to be re-elected, after he was appointed a Lord of the Treasury, he was beaten, by nearly two to one, by O'Reilly. Then, to make room for him, the Government made Bristow, the member for Kildare, Under Secretary to the Admiralty, and White came in for that borough; but he had an expensive contest. Last year he had another fight, and was beaten by Albert Grant. After this he contested the county of Dublin, and was defeated; or was that his brother?—yes, it was his brother Charles. But the father had to pay the money; and so the old gentleman has had to pay for four costly contests in about four years, besides the expenses of about a dozen election battles which he himself fought. However, he got a peerage at last, and I have no doubt he thinks it cheap at the price." "And a colonel in the Guards for his son Luke?" "No; he was Captain in the 13th Light Dragoons, but he sold out about twelve years ago. He is Lieutenant-Colonel in the Longford Militia." "Yes, I see," said I, looking at my "Dad;" "he retired from the Dragoons as Captain when he was only twenty-four years old, and, as you say, his father was made a peer because he had spent so much money on elections. And this is how we are governed. Don't you think, Blogg, that we need a reform in Parliament to mend all that?" "By Jove! Lounger, it's very bad. There's my poor old second cousin has been in the Army thirty years. He was in the Crimea, the Indian mutiny, and has been all over the world, and has only just got his captaincy. But no more of reform, if you love me, Hal; or we shall stand chatting here all day."

Mr. Brand's letter on the policy of the Whigs next Session is the letter of the Right Hon. Bouverie Brand, and no more, for Mr. Brand holds no office now. He has resigned the office of whipper-in to the Liberal party and is simply the member for Lewes; nevertheless, his opinion is valuable. It seems to me to indicate that there is an inclination amongst the aristocratic Whigs to give the Conservatives fair play, and if their reform bill be reasonably satisfactory, to support it. A Whig friend, however, suggests that I ought to substitute for "fair play" rope. "We mean to give them rope," he says, "that they may hang themselves;" and no doubt this is more consonant with the policy generally adopted by the Whigs out of office than that which I have suggested. Indeed, I might say the policy of both parties; for, in the conflict of parties in the House of Commons, fair play is no more thought of than it is in war; and, in suggesting that the aristocratic Whigs mean to give the Conservatives fair play, you must not suppose that I imagine that this disposition to fair play, if it exists, arises from any chivalrous feeling. I know the House too well to imagine that. If there be such a disposition, it is policy, not chivalry, that inspires it. It seems to me that the aristocratic Whigs are alarmed by the portentous aspect of the reform question. They had no notion that by opposing or languidly supporting the moderate bill of last Session they would rouse the people to action. They are frightened by the noise they have made, and would be glad to have this reform question settled somehow, even though their enemies should settle it. They have come to the conclusion, tardily, as is their wont in such matters, that there will be no peace until it be settled, and that the longer the settlement is delayed the more objectionable to them the settlement will be. Once the Sibylline books have been offered, and refused with something like scorn. They are now offered again at an enhanced price; and the aristocratic Whigs, and even Whigs not aristocratic, alarmed at the threatening countenances of the Sibyllae, are for purchasing them at once. Let the Conservatives buy them, or we may have to give more for them. Who knows? Perhaps, if the settlement be delayed, Lewes itself may be disenchanted.

Whilst reading Bright's speeches and the criticisms thereon, an anecdote of Wilberforce came to my mind. Wilberforce was a very eloquent speaker, and generally very moderate. But once, when a gentleman had stigmatised him as the hon. and religious member, he jumped up, and, to the surprise of his friends, delivered a most biting sarcastic reply. And when some one said to Pitt, "Were you not surprised at this burst of Wilberforce?" the great statesman replied, "Yes; but I was more surprised that, possessing such powers of sarcasm, he should be able to restrain them as he does." Well, I, who know Bright's powers of sarcasm and denunciation, am rather disposed to admire his self-restraint than to find fault with what his enemies call his violence.

The Archbishop of York told 400 of his clergy, assembled in the magnificent cathedral the other day, that they ought to have early services for the poor, to enable them in the course of the day to

walk into the green fields. He, however, denounced Sunday trains. But how are the denizens of Whitechapel and Spitalfields to get into green fields but by train? Gentle shepherd, tell us how! A stalwart man, like the Archbishop—for he is of Herculean mould—might walk through miles of streets without fatigue. But what of the women and children, who need fresh air more than the men? and, if Sunday trains are to be stopped, why not cabs and omnibuses, and gentlemen's carriages? Gentle shepherd, tell us why!

Mr. W. McConnell, the clever young artist whose facile pencil has for several years past supplied great numbers of illustrations to the periodicals of the day—the ILLUSTRATED TIMES, among others—has been reduced by overwork to so bad a state of health as to render a temporary sojourn in a more genial climate necessary to his restoration to active life. A committee of friends are therefore engaged in collecting contributions to the formation of a portfolio of drawings, by the disposal of which, it is hoped, he will be enabled to go abroad. The collection will contain sketches by Sant; W. Collins, R.A.; Frederick Goodall, R.A.; John Gilbert, Charles Keene, Thomas Hood (the Elder), E. Hargitt, George Cruikshank, Flaxman, Hayes, C. Cattermole, D. Roberts, Brierly, J. D. Watson, Sandys, and others.

Mr. James Hannay, the well-known and talented *littérateur* and journalist, has, I understand, been appointed by Lord Stanley to the post of British Consul at Dunkirk.

Here is a story of a neat and polite correction of pronunciation. A well-known London journalist was accosted in the streets of Ramsgate the other day by a person who requested to be shown the way to the house of Mr. Pugin, the architect. The inquirer pronounced the name as though it were spelt *Puglin*, whereupon the journalist mildly replied, "That, Sir, is the way to Mr. Pugin's; but the *g* is soft."

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The event of the past week has been the opening of the NEW HOLBORN THEATRE ROYAL, under the management of Mr. Sefton Parry. I shall leave to the Architectural Lounger—if there be such an officer on your staff—the task of describing the interior and exterior of the new theatre, and if he is assisted by an artist, all the better. Be it mine to say that the new theatre is a fine building, that the means of ingress and egress have been capitally contrived, that the proscenium is anything but handsome, and that the seats in the stalls are comfortably cushioned. A lady can pass you as you sit, and you can pass her as she sits, without mutual hatred, terror, and collision of the knees. On Saturday last the new theatre was filled at a very early hour. The farce of "Larkins's Love-Letters" was played almost in dumb show; and at about eight o'clock the curtain rose on what is described in the playbills as "a racing drama, entitled 'Flying Scud; or a Four-legged Fortune,' showing the ups and downs, crosses, double crosses, events, and vicissitudes of life on the turf," by Dion Boucicault. My limits do not permit me to enter into any detail of the new "racing drama." Some parts of it are very exciting, and others—and many others—are tedious. The characters are well selected and contrastive, but they are not well developed. The first act is excellent, as would be the second act, were we not taken to a "Pigskin Club," where a number of young ladies in a ballet, attired as jockeys, are addressed as both riding-boys and jockeys—dance a jockey hornpipe, in which Nat Gosling, a jockey of the past generation, joins, after he has sung a silly song, which, in the interest of the ladies who attend the theatre, should be omitted. The language used in a stable is not refined; but in a queer, no-man's land, where jockeys polish stirrups in full racing uniform, we need not stick to hard fact. The great effect of the piece is the "Derby Day," which is realised by a very effective set scene painted by Mr. James; by a vast number of auxiliaries, among whom can be recognised real acrobats, a real Punch and Judy, and a real Italian organ-grinder and his monkey; but the effect of this scene is not due to either scenery or supernumerary aid—indeed, the management of the crowd is somewhat confused and vague—but to the admirable incident of which they are the setting. Flying Scud is the favourite. The "legs" have bribed Nat Gosling to hocus him; but Nat has substituted another horse, and the legs, when admitted to the stable, hocus the wrong animal. On the day of the race the legs discover that they have been "sold," and, having failed with the horse, seek out the jockey who is to ride him, and drug him. The interest of the piece, the fortunes of the hero, the love of the heroine, all depend on Flying Scud's four legs. There is Scud, in splendid condition; but no jockey to ride him. Nat Gosling's heart is broken. The old man loved Scud as only Englishmen and Arabs can love a horse. He is inspired by an idea. He throws off his coat and waistcoat, and calls for a jockey cap and jacket. *He will ride Scud, and win the Derby himself!* This admirable incident roused the audience to an enthusiasm—according to the conventional phrase—seldom witnessed in a theatre, in which your Lounger most thoroughly and heartily shared. Scud wins the race, and the "legs" are beaten. Here the piece really ends, for the two acts that follow do not continue the story and are not worth mention. With the exception of the Derby scene, the drama seems to have been put together hurriedly; and though here and there a skilful touch evidences the hand of Mr. Boucicault, "Flying Scud," as a whole, is by no means up to his ordinary mark. Mr. George Belmore made a great "hit" as the old jockey; and Miss Charlotte Saunders, as the young jockey, whose predilection for beer makes too much flesh, was loudly and deservedly applauded. Mr. George Neville, Mr. Garden, Mr. Vollaire, Mr. Westland, and Mr. Wilmot, also merit the most favourable mention for their exertions in the characters assigned to them. "Flying Scud," despite all its drawbacks—and they are many—is a great success, and is destined to a long run.

Mr. Frank Burnand's operatic burlesque of "Der Freischütz; or, A Good Cast for a Piece," was produced at the STRAND on Monday, with marked success. The whole piece is written with more than usual care, point, and pun. The incantation scene is especially good: Zamiel, Caspar, Rodolph, and Catspaw (an introduced character) throw charms into a cauldron and chant round it, like the witches in "Macbeth"; but, instead of the words "Double, double, toil and trouble," they drone out "Kafoozlun! Kafoozlun! Kafoozlun!" The scenery of the new burlesque has been beautifully painted by Mr. Charles Fenton. Mr. James, Miss Raynham, Mr. Tom Thorne, Miss Ada Swanborough, and Miss Fanny Hughes, exerted themselves with their accustomed effect. Mr. Robson, a new appearance at this theatre, was warmly received.

Theatricals are so much astir this week that I have not space to do Mr. Burnand full justice, and the same reason prevents me from mentioning Mr. Byron's burlesque, produced on Wednesday, until your next number. The revival of the "Belle's Stratagem," at the ST. JAMES'S, must also wait; for Lounger is not a noun of multitude, but only one and indivisible, like a republic, the only thing in which any rational Lounger would wish to resemble that form of government.

At DRURY LANE "Macbeth" has been revived, Mr. Barry Sullivan and Miss Amy Sedgwick appearing as the impressionable Thane and his ambitious partner.

At the HAYMARKET "The Overland Route" and "The Critic" have been played to crowded houses. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews are added to the attractions of the regular company, and the result is highly successful. In fact, there are nothing but successes all over London, which fact, I think, proves that we want more theatres; for success should be given to few.

Whoever would witness a really brilliant comedy should see Mr. Oxenford's adaptation of "Une Verre d'Eau" at the PRINCESS'S. It is a masterpiece of dramatic construction, and a practical reproof to those half-witted people who exclaim against fair adaptation. We import wines from France, because they are better than the wines grown here. Why not import dramas too? There is more ingenuity, finesse, and delicacy in the "Verre d'Eau" than in a hundred of the pieces usually produced at London theatres. Is it sufficient reason for depriving Londoners of the pleasure of witnessing it that the original author was born in France and dwelt in Paris?



THE CITY OF VENICE.

VENICE.

THE transfer of Venetia from Austria to Italy, which is now all but complete, imparts a special interest to the capital city of the province, of which we this week publish a bird's-eye View. A few details descriptive of the city and of its history will therefore not be inappropriate.

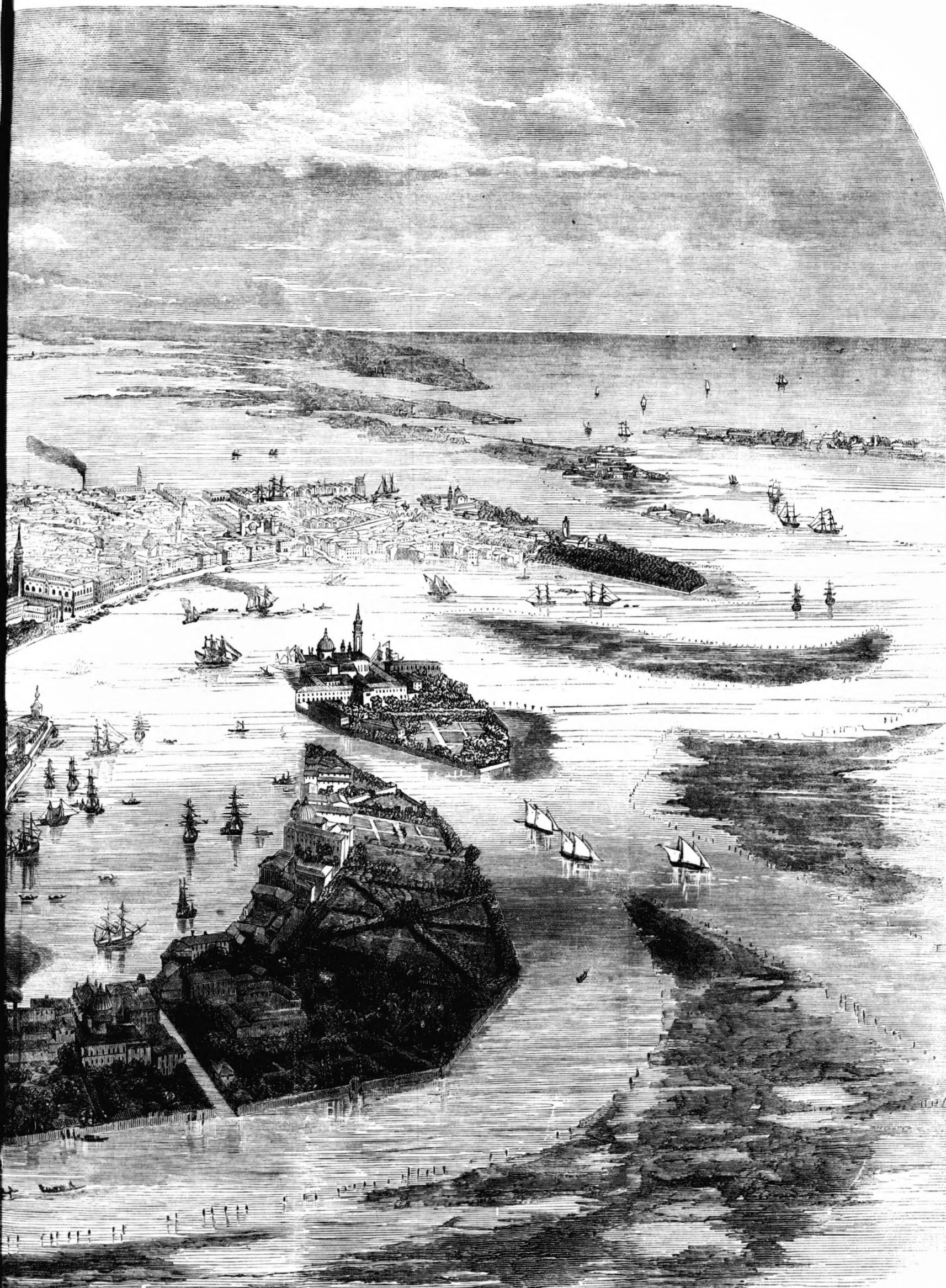
TOPOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

Venice, for many centuries the capital of a celebrated Republic, the first

maritime and commercial Power of the world, and one of the finest cities in Europe, is unique, both as regards position and construction, being built entirely on piles, and occupying seventy or eighty small islands, separated by 149 canals, which are crossed by 306 bridges. The chief of the former is the Grand Canal, 100 ft. to 180 ft. wide, and bordered by magnificent palaces and churches; it separates the city into two nearly equal portions, which are connected by the bridge of the Rialto, built of white marble, and consisting of a single arch. The streets or lanes are so

narrow and intricate as to render the city a vast labyrinth, and, being fit only for foot passengers, the place of wheel-carriages is supplied by small barges called gondolas, the peculiar form and great number of which constantly traversing the principal canals presents one of the chief characteristics of the city. The largest street, the Merceria, in which are the best shops, is only 15 ft. wide; the principal promenades are the square of St. Mark, and the public gardens, which are nearly surrounded by the sea. Among its many squares, the most remarkable for extent,

regularity, and beauty of situation, is the Piazza di San Marco (St. M. on the south side of the city, at the entrance of the grand canal. On east side of this is a smaller square called the Piazzetta, and at the ar between these, is the Church of St. Mark. Venice contains a vast number of magnificent churches and palaces, adorned with the paintings of Tiepolo and the frescoes of Tintoretto and Paul Veronese. The chief edifices of the palace of the Procuratie Vecchie and the Procuratie Nuove, which



VENICE.

city, and beauty of situation, is the Piazza di San Marco (St. Mark). On the south side of the city, at the entrance of the grand canal. On the side of this is a smaller square called the Piazzetta, and at the angle, in these, is the Church of St. Mark. Venice contains a vast number of magnificent churches and palaces, adorned with the paintings of Titian and the frescoes of Tintoretto and Paul Veronese. The chief edifices are the Procuratie Vecchie and the Procuratie Nuove, which are the greater part of the square of St. Mark, around which extends

a vast gallery containing elegant shops and cafés. The portion of the Procuratie Nuove next the Piazzetta is the chef-d'œuvre of Sansovino and a remarkably fine building. The old Library of St. Mark occupies a magnificent hall, and in the same building is the Zecca or mint, where, in 1284, the celebrated ducat of Venice, the most ancient coin in Europe, was struck. The former palace of the doge, built by Marino Faliero in the fourteenth century, is remarkable for its architecture and its imposing mass; its interior is decorated with many of the finest works of the

great masters. The Bridge of Sighs connects this palace with the former prisons and dungeons of the Inquisition. Among the ecclesiastical edifices, the most magnificent is the Church of St. Mark, with its golden ceilings, its pavement of jasper and porphyry, its 500 columns of black, white, and veined marble, bronze, alabaster, verde antique, and serpentine. It contains the celebrated Palla d'Ora, a species of mosaic, in gold, silver, and enamel, made at Constantinople in the tenth century, and a vast reliquary, with many antiquities and objects

of art. Over the portal of this magnificent temple the four celebrated bronze horses, which were founded at Corinth, and successively adorned Athens, Rome, Constantinople, Venice, and Paris, were replaced in 1815. In front of St. Mark are three bronze pedestals, with masts, now bearing the Austrian standards, and near it are the Campanile Tower, the Torre dell'Orologio, or clock tower, and two granite columns, one surmounted by the lion of St. Mark and the other by the statue of St. Theodore. The other sacred edifices are San Giorgio Maggiore, the Zitelle, and the Saluta (with a fine cupola), the churches of the Jesuits, the Scalzi, and those of Miracoli and of St. Peter (formerly the patriarchal see), and the church of the Frari, with a fine monument to Canova. Most of these, with the dogana or custom-house, are situated on the Grand Canal. Venice has six theatres, the seventh and finest having been destroyed by fire in 1836. The arsenal, situated on an island, surrounded by high walls, was long the first in Europe, and still preserves some importance. The chief scientific and literary institutions are the Lyceum, with a rich cabinet of natural history and a botanic garden; two Royal gymsnas; and the seminary of the Saluta, occupying the former convent of this name, with valuable scientific collections and a rich library; normal high school, marine college; academy and school of the fine arts, the oldest of its kind in existence. The Library of St. Mark, comprising 90,000 vols., with a fine cabinet of antiquities and medals, is one of the richest in Italy and among the largest in Europe. One of the most remarkable institutions is that of the Archivio Generale, which contains an immense mass of documents relative to the history of Venice. In the Middle Ages Venice had a monopoly of the manufacture of glass; but this has greatly declined; and its manufactures are now confined to mirrors, jewelry, artificial pearls, silks, and porcelain. The imports comprise sugar, coffee, and other colonial produce; cotton and woollen fabrics, cotton yarn, and raw cotton; hardware goods, dyestuffs, salted fish, and grain. The exports, silk and silk goods, glass wares, and books.

The origin of Venice dates so far back as the period of the invasion of Attila in the year 452, when a number of the inhabitants of Venetia and other parts of Italy, taking refuge in the islands of the Adriatic, formed a confederation to oppose the barbarians. In 697 they elected, as the head of their government, a doge or duke (dux). The Venetian States formed themselves into a Republic in 809. In 997 they took possession of the town of Narenta, a nest of pirates, and thus commenced their maritime power. They afterwards subjugated all the towns of Dalmatia. The crusades were a source of aggrandisement for Venice. At the end of the twelfth century the Venetians made themselves masters of part of the Morea, Corfu, Cephalonia, and Crete. During two centuries they monopolised the commerce of India by the route of Egypt; but they lost this on the discovery of the passage by the Cape of Good Hope. The State attained the height of its prosperity in the fifteenth century. It began to decline at the beginning of the sixteenth century, and its overthrow was completed by the French in 1797. By the Treaty of Presburg, in 1805, it was made over, with the provinces of the continent, to the kingdom of Italy; and was held by the French till 1814, when it reverted to Austria. In 1848 the Venetians revolted against the Austrians, and held the city for several months. As everyone knows, the city and province are about to be incorporated in the kingdom of Italy. The Government of Venice comprises eight delegates, which bear the names of their capitals—Venice, Padua, Vicenza, Verona, Rovigo, Treviso, Belluno, and Udine.

THE DEFENCES.

We extract the following description of the defences of Venice from the letters of the military correspondent of the *Times*:

"Venice is not only an interesting relic of past magnificence, but a great fortress capable of holding back an army from penetrating within her ports and canals, and also able to act as a point of concentration for a force that might assemble here and threaten the rear of a southern army marching against Gorizia or the Tyrol. After the Battle of Custoza, when Archduke Albrecht was retiring out of Italy, the Governor of Venice considered himself strong enough to spare 3000 men, who went to swell the number of the troops interposing between the Prussians and Vienna. The place is provisioned for four months, and the works are capable of holding out for a still longer period, especially since Admiral Tegetthoff took the command of the sea, and thus ensured the freedom of communication with Trieste. Now, a fortress may be provisioned in different ways and on different scales, but the garrison of Venice would want neither fresh meat, bread, wine, oil, nor fruit. Three thousand seven hundred oxen assembled on various islands enjoy a tranquil and sunny existence, unworried by dogs or drovers, and having nothing to do but to fatten themselves for the tables of the soldiers, besides the usual stores of preserved meats, &c. The other wants of a besieged place are provided for in like proportion. Even one day's examination of such works as it was possible to see in the time has shown that much science has been displayed and great care taken to render Venice impregnable, except after a long siege, and even then she could only fall into the hands of an enemy who could keep the command both of the land and sea.

"Since the viaduct was built over the lagunes most travellers approach Venice by railway, and, if their attention is not too much taken up by the towers and domes of the city, they can see on each side of the bridge, when the tide is high, a wide expanse of water dotted over here and there with dark objects which have the appearance of small islands; but the water scarcely covers the land which reappears at low tide, and the islands are strong forts.

"In olden times, before the famous Republic had arisen to excite the envy of the world as well by its maritime strength as by its riches, this corner of the debatable ground, half sea, half land, was formed by the débris brought down from the mountains settling itself about the mouths of rivers, whose beds became choked up so that part of the descending water had to push its way seawards by numerous small channels which it burrowed in the soft soil, and another part flowed over the coast, mingling with the waves of the sea at high tide, and forming that brackish mixture, the exhalations from which are so deleterious to health. But the inhabitants of Venetia dug deep courses for the fresh water, leading it round away from the city and forcing it to discharge itself by mouths prepared for it; the old channels of the river mouths remained, and are now the canals, but most of them end landwards in culs-de-sac, and it is the sea itself which fills them and spreads over the lagunes at high tide, retreating again with the ebb, and suffering the land to appear. Thus true salt water encompasses the city, and the lagunes of Venice are only unhealthy in the autumn, when the weedy growths of the spring and summer are decaying. Except in the canals, the water is too shallow to admit of the approach of boats carrying troops to the city, and an enemy must therefore advance by certain well-defined routes, unless he will wade through the water and soft mud, a dangerous operation, and rendered, indeed, almost impossible by the elaborate network formed by the canals, which intertwine like the roots of a tree, and are of unequal and suddenly varying depths.

"The great high roads and the railways to Venice approach the city through Mestre, a small unfortified town to the north-west, only important as the junction of the routes from all directions. The railway is continued over the lagunes by a bridge about two miles and a quarter long, which also carries two small streams of fresh water. Parallel to the bridge, and close to it, is the canal St. Secondo, the only one of the whole number which leads directly to the city without winding, and hence the probability that an enemy would chose these two routes for his advance. At the edge of the lagunes, and at the point where the railway and the canal St. Secondo first approach each other closely, stands the Fort of Malghera, or Fort Haynau, as it is also called, an irregular bastioned work, with an exterior and inner line of defences, and redoubts beyond the exterior curtains. The canal is led half round it and supplies water to all its ditches, while the railway passes within a few paces, having been prepared by its construction for such an occasion as the present, when the convenience of travellers would have to yield to the necessities of war. There has been no blowing up of the line, but the simple removal of a small bridge leaves a gap too wide to be passed over, while beneath shines the ever present water, and

two guns behind a parapet stare in the face of an adventurous force approaching along the railway from Mestre. To the left of this slight defence is another fort, smaller than Malghera, and called the 'Thurm Redoubt,' in front of and to the left of which are pools of water, marshes, and pits enough to render an assault impossible. Wherever the visible range is considerable, rifled guns of the largest calibre possessed by the Austrians guard the way, and where the nature of the defence intended shortens the distance required for the projectile to pass over, smooth-bore howitzers and shell guns stand ready to pour destruction upon troops who may have approached within their range. The barracks are casemated, loopholed, bomb-proof, and covered with heaps of earth; there are blockhouses, almost hidden under mounds of the same ever-ready defence, and against the walls of magazines, blockhouses, and barracks are heavy beams leaning, also covered with earth; indeed, so many precautions are taken for the safety of the men that one is almost led to wonder whether it would be possible for any soldier to be hurt. There are no embrasures, and the guns peer so closely over the parapet that they are almost invisible from outside, while their carriages are quite out of the line of fire. From 200 to 600 rounds, according to the position, are provided to satisfy the cravings of each piece for its natural food during action, though more could be forwarded from Venice if required. Wherever there is a fort, large or small, near Venice, there will be found rifled guns and smooth traverses and bombproofs, lofty gun-carriages, and lowly mortars, dry magazines and wet ditches, earth being piled up over everything that will beat it; and these forts cover all approaches, stand beside every canal. Around the city there are no less than eighty-two, fifty-eight of which are permanently armed, and the remainder would receive their guns on the first tidings of the enemy's preparing to attack."

GUNNERY EXPERIMENTS IN AMERICA.—A New York correspondent gives an interesting summary of some artillery experiments, which have been carried on at Fortress Monroe, beginning Sept. 21, and ending two days afterwards. The target was a solid wall of granite, nearly 8 ft. thick in the middle and nearly 12 ft. at the ends. Four plates of 4-in. iron were placed in front of this, some resting directly on the stone, some having an intermediate backing of sand. Two guns of 12 in. and 10 in. (Rodman's pattern) were used, and the gunnery officers had the use of a railway from the firing point to the target, the range being 350 yards. The guns were altogether victorious, for it only required eleven shots to entirely smash the target, these experiments being considered conclusive against masonry and brick forts at the range, by the artillery officers of the United States on the ground.

SUPPOSED TRADE OUTRAGE.—Between five and six o'clock on Monday morning the inhabitants of New Hereford-street, Sheffield, were considerably alarmed by a loud explosion. It was soon ascertained that the house of a man named Fernyhough had been partly "blown up." Some of the circumstances attending the explosion lead to the supposition that there had been a repetition of those trade outrages which years ago called forth strong expressions of abhorrence. It appears that Fernyhough is a saw-grinder, and that he had not belonged to the grinders' union for about twelve months past. A short time ago an attempt was made to get him into the union again; but, as £13 was demanded to make all right, the man determined he would keep out of the union. Since that time, it is said, he has apprehended that some attempt would be made to injure him. On Sunday night he and his wife and their five children went to bed, as usual, and at the time named above they were startled by the explosion. When Fernyhough got down stairs, he found that the house had been blown up. On examination, a can, such as workmen drink their tea and coffee from, was found, with cord tied round the sides so as to make it hold firmer. There was no doubt that the can had been metamorphosed into an infernal machine, and, filled with powder, had been flung into Fernyhough's cellar, with fuse attached. The damage done was considerable. The blast rushed up the cellar staircase, blew the door into fragments, and then spent its force upon the sides of the house and the stairs leading to the bed-rooms. The windows were blown across the street, and one of the walls blown into the entry which ran by its outer side. It seems marvelous that, with all this damage, no injury should have been done to life or limb.

ELECTION EXPENSES.—The Election Commissioners have drawn considerable attention to the expenses at elections, independently of any bribery. At the last general election the official return of the total costs incurred by the three candidates collectively at Lancaster is set down at £2529 7s. 2d., including £167 2s. 10d., the charge made by the returning officer; at Reigate, with three candidates, to £2636 18s. 5d., including £143 11s. 3d.; at Totnes, with four candidates, to £786 7s. 11d., including £64 4s. 6d.; and at Great Yarmouth, with five candidates, to £1638 18s. 7d., including £114 11s. 2d. At the last general election there were 938 candidates. The largest sum spent at any one place appears to have been in the North Riding of Yorkshire, where the total cost incurred by the three candidates amounted to no less than £27,974 2s. 5d., including £680 18s. 1d. Of the larger sum, £470 3s. 7d. was objected to, but whether successfully is not clear. As a contrast to this enormous outlay, Down County and Downpatrick figure for the small sum of £2 10s. each, the first with two candidates and the latter with one; while the cost at Armagh (county), with two candidates, is placed at *nil*. The amount of costs incurred by candidates in the counties of England and Wales (excepting Berkshire, Middlesex, and Brecknock, for which there are no accounts), was £315,666 11s. 8d.; in the cities and boroughs in England and Wales (excepting the Isle of Wight, Cambridge University, Dorchester, Huntingdon, Monmouth, Nottingham, Oxford University, Warwick, Wells, Worcester, Cardiff, Flint, Radnor, and Swansea), £315,994 13s. 0d.; in the counties in Scotland, £32,244 11s. 11d.; in the cities and boroughs of Scotland (excepting Caithness and Wick), £19,431 13s. 5d.; in the counties in Ireland (excepting Leitrim, Tipperary, Tyrone, Limerick, and Waterford), £44,801 6s. 7d.; and in the cities and boroughs in Ireland (excepting Cashel, Clonmel, Cork, Dublin University, Dundalk, Kilkenny, and city of Limerick), £24,610 4s. 2d.; making a total of £752,749 0s. 11d. This, however, does not include all the expenses, because the charges made by the returning officers in the counties of England and Wales amount to £15,655 8s. 3d.; in the cities and boroughs in England and Wales, to £26,275 11s. 10d.; in the counties in Scotland, to £299 6s. 1d.; in the cities and boroughs in Scotland, to £1206 12s. 4d.; in the counties in Ireland, to £2239 5s. 8d.; and in the cities and boroughs in Ireland, to £1004 4s. 7d.; making a total of returning officers' charges of £47,320 8s. 11d., and bringing all the costs up to £800,069 9s. 10d. But when it is considered that no accounts at all have been furnished from thirty-one places; that no accounts have been furnished by unsuccessful candidates, except payment of returning officers' charges, in twenty-six places; and that even the returning officers' charge is not given in ten places, it is clear that the above sum cannot give a correct idea of the whole costs by a very large sum. The expenses incurred by Mr. Brett, M.P., at the recent Helston election were, according to the return which has just been published, £540.

LORD SHAFTEBURY ON THE TEN-HOURS BILL.—The Earl of Shaftesbury, in addition to his labours in connection with the Social Science Congress, has been at work in other directions, with a view to benefiting the lower classes in the north. On Saturday he was present at the laying of the top-stone of the Charter-square Ragged Schools in Manchester, and subsequently addressed a large meeting in the Townhall on the subject of the ten-hours' system of labour. In the former case his Lordship, having laid the stone, delivered an encouraging speech with reference to ragged schools generally, and the great good they had done. He mentioned that when he began the work, now fully thirty years ago, there was only one ragged school in London, and about five scholars; there were now 250 schools and upwards of 30,000 scholars. What had been the fruit of this? Let them take the opinion of the magistrates and police officers who lived in the neighbourhood, and they said that it was astonishing the order, decency, and morality that prevailed wherever there was a ragged school. A great number of the children emigrated to Australia, and they behaved themselves so well that a letter was received from the colony, saying "Send us out at least a hundred of Lord Shaftesbury's boys." These boys were picked out of the gutter, and were as dirty and ragged as anybody could suppose; and he undertook to say that his children here—he said "his" children, because he called all children his children—if they would do their duty, and their parents would do theirs, in addition to the efforts of the excellent persons who conducted the schools, and if they sent forth a number of children they would soon receive applications for 200 or 300 more; for they made the best servants, the best labourers, and the best colonists. He concluded his remarks by some observations on the superior advantages of employing female teachers in schools of this kind. The meeting in the Townhall was chiefly composed of workmen anxious to promote "the Ten-Hours Bill." It was to have been presided over by the Mayor, but that functionary was unavoidably compelled to be absent. The Earl of Shaftesbury, in the course of his address, warmly advocated the restriction of the hours of labour on various grounds; and in concluding his speech said: "My good and very dear friends, I think you will believe me. I have never spoken to you words of flattery or of deceit; I think you know that I have always spoken from the bottom of my heart; and when I tell you now that I respect and love you I am quite sure you will believe the words to which I have now given utterance. This I may say in conclusion. You may read in history that Queen Mary, having experienced the loss of Calais, said, 'I know, when I die, the word "Calais" will be found written upon my heart.' I can say that, whenever the time shall come that I am gathered to my fathers, could my heart be seen by you and by others, upon it you would find inscribed the name of Lancashire." The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Mayor for the use of the room, and by the singing of the doxology.

INCORPORATION OF HANOVER WITH PRUSSIA.

THE protest of the King of Hanover against the annexation of his patrimony has been immediately succeeded by a manifesto from the Liberal majority of what but lately was his own Second Chamber, in which that annexation is unequivocally approved. This important document runs as follows:—

The onward march of events has destroyed the independence of the kingdom of Hanover and led to its reunion with the kingdom of Prussia. All our endeavours in the last session of the Hanover Chambers to cause the German unity movement to take a different course have been in vain. The King of Hanover would not listen to our appeal to his sense of the duties he owed to Germany. Our warnings, as well as our protestations, that the interest of the country required a different course from the one pursued by him were neglected. Not a particle of those sovereign rights which, useless as they were to himself, were yet of great moment to any central authority of Germany, would he sacrifice. In point of fact, he had not the remotest conception of the necessity of conforming to the new state of things nor the task imposed upon him under it. Thus it was that the preservation of the German Confederacy, though on a thoroughly reformed basis, which had been so long our aim, became impossible, and that, after the victory of the Prussian arms over the Austrian, the annexation of this country by the conquering Power was the inevitable consequence of previous events. One section of the country regards our reunion with the great German State of Prussia as an occurrence equally auspicious for Germany and Hanover. Another section looks upon the change as an irrevocable fact, quietly accepting it because there is no other basis of political existence left. A third and not inconsiderable section is as yet opposed to the new aspect of affairs. We cannot, however, but hope that all men capable of political reflection, recognising the undeniable truth that the restoration of the kingdom of Hanover can be only attempted with the aid of foreigners, and at the expense and ruin of Germany, will deem it their patriotic duty to take an active part in the speedy consolidation and definitive settlement of our country. We therefore regret useless agitations, which by exciting illusory hopes are calculated to awaken a spirit of discontent, and can be but prejudicial to the country and the parties indulging in them. On the other hand, we hope and trust that his Prussian Majesty's Government will respect the peculiar institutions of this country, and, by a process of gradual and moderate transition, cautiously adapt them to the requirements of his aggrandised monarchy. In many similar cases has the Prussian Government known how to combine provincial independence with the wants of a great and united State. Indispensable as it is that the laws having reference to commerce and industry, to military and diplomatic affairs, as well as to all obligations of the subject towards the State, should be identical in all parts of the Prussian dominion, it will yet be advisable to respect such arrangements of secondary importance existing in the new provinces as are the growth of history, custom, and legislation combined. General conscription prescribed no less by the common Constitution of Germany of 1849 than by the Prussian Charter, we regard as the only equitable distribution of the burden of military service. In like manner, we hold it to be the best guarantee of the independence of the nation. From certain passages in the last Prussian Speech from the Throne, we are happy to infer that, in consequence of the widening of the Prussian frontiers and the formation of the North German Confederacy, it will be possible to lighten the duties devolving upon the individual recruit. Our gallant troops, who have so often gloriously fought for Germany by the side of the Prussian army, will form a valuable addition to the latter. Experience has taught the Hanoverians the value of their laws touching agricultural concerns, and the paying-off of ancient feudal imposts. These, together with the statutes bearing upon the local administration of towns and villages, and peasant rights, we wish to see upheld for the present. For this purpose we deem it necessary that the province of Hanover, whose division would be as hurtful to our interests as would have been the partial cession of the State of Hanover to Prussia, be preserved in its integrity; and that a Provincial Representative Assembly, elected by the suffrages of the entire population, be established, to advise the Government on the enactment of provincial laws and the administration of the country generally. We make no doubt that the particular position of the Hanover civil service, and the claims that may be justly preferred by its members in consideration of former services, will be duly recognised by the new Government. Although prepared to contribute towards the public expenditure in an equal ratio with the rest of Prussia's subjects, the people of Hanover are desirous to see a portion of their Crown lands set apart for the necessities of their provincial Government. For, although large sums will be saved by our no longer having to maintain a separate Government and Court, the advantage to accrue to us from this change would otherwise be of little moment, inasmuch as a large portion of the public outlay has so long been defrayed from the revenue of our very extensive domains. A number of public institutions, which from their very nature must remain provincial, are charged on these lands or have been mainly supported by them, and the country would be seriously damaged if the public property were to be alienated and devoted to the purposes of the entire Prussian monarchy. Apart from the "Monastic Funds," destined for special objects by legacy, the rest of the public property might be divided into two parts—the one to go to the common exchequer, the other to be kept back for the discharge of provincial expenditure, to be determined with the concurrence of the Provincial Representative Assembly. To accomplish its unifying task, the Prussian Government is imperatively required to accord the boon of self-government to the various towns and provinces, which, however, would be impossible where they deprived of the requisite funds. It is the unmistakable interest of the Prussian State and its new provinces to consult an Assembly of Notables, to be chosen by the people, in devising the mode of amalgamating recent acquisitions with the body of the entire monarchy. We look forward with joy to the revival of Germany and the prosperous development of our country. A political division of Northern Germany from the South is admissible only while the present period of transition lasts. The nation is one, and requires a united organisation. We look upon the North German Confederacy as a provisional arrangement, and demand that it should be so organised as to involve no permanent separation from the South. All German States must have the right to join whenever they please. The States on the other side of the river Main, no less than those of the north, should acknowledge it as a national duty to submit to the direction of the Confederacy by Prussia, this being the only possible mode of establishing unity.

Hanover, Oct. 1, 1866.

[Here follow the signatures of thirty-eight members of the Second Chamber of Hanover.]

RENEWED STRIKE AT THE THORNCLIFFE COLLIERIES, SOUTH YORKSHIRE.—The disputes at these collieries appear to be interminable. Only about a fortnight ago the men commenced work after a strike which had extended over a period of upwards of nine months, and on Saturday morning last between 400 and 500 men again struck work, in consequence of the apprehension of some of their fellow-workmen. When the men resumed work after the late strike a dispute arose between the old and new hands, some of the latter refusing to give up their contracts, which they held from the two parties was the result, during which several of them were injured. Since then warrants have been issued against a number of men who, it was alleged, took part in the disturbance. During the past week seven men have been apprehended. As soon as this became known among the body of workmen they determined not to resume work until the men were set at liberty. Several of the pits were completely "set down" during the whole of Saturday.

KNIGHTED CAPTAINS IN THE MERCHANT SERVICE.—Captain Anderson, of the Great Eastern, will not be the first knight who has held a command in the merchant service. Previous to Maximilian going to Mexico a large fleet of steam-ships was employed in transporting troops from France and Austria to Vera Cruz, and amongst the steamers were several Liverpool ships. One of these, named the Peruvian, sailed from Liverpool a few days ago for Boston and Philadelphia, under command of Sir Joseph Glover. This is the first merchant-vessel, we believe, that ever sailed from Liverpool whose commander bore the honour of knighthood. It was the Peruvian that carried from Trieste a portion of the troops forming the Emperor Maximilian's body-guard; and so pleased was the Emperor with Captain Glover's services that, on the transport service being dissolved, he knighted him and also conferred upon him the additional honour of the Order of Leopold. Sir Joe Glover and Sir James Anderson are at present the only two merchant knight-captains in the service. A knighthood conferred by the Emperor Maximilian does not carry with it an English title, and "Sir Joseph Glover's" name is absent from the list.

TRULY CHRISTIAN CLERGYMEN.—A correspondent of a Dublin contemporary gives the following picture of an Irish parish:—"When the Rector hears that one of the Presbyterian clergy is ill he immediately collects all his own flock to pray with him for the life and health of his Presbyterian brother. The Rector also, by invitation, visits his Presbyterian brother, and earnestly prays at his bedside. When the Rector is ill the Presbyterian clergy convoke their congregations, and a fervent prayer is offered for the sick Episcopalian. When the Rector goes abroad one of the three Roman Catholic priests addresses him with a kind proposal to provide a gift of a stout horse for his comfort. This same priest (now a Roman Catholic prelate) recommended his people always to show marked respect to the ladies of this Rector's family when they met them walking. Another priest waylays this Rector on his return from parochial visitations, and asks him, with hearty good-will, to refresh himself with cake and wine. The Roman Catholic parishioners delight to send fish, new potatoes, and bulky cauliflower to this rural Rector. When any of the ladies of his family are sick great is their concern. When a daughter, who loved them all, and ever ministered to the sick and poor, was dying last year, prayers were offered up in the Roman Catholic houses in her behalf. Nay, when the Rector was, some time since, dangerously ill, prayers were offered up for his recovery in the Roman Catholic chapel in his parish. The parish is Loughlin Island, and the Rector is Dr. Drew, Hon. Grand Chaplain to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and Chaplain to the Lord Lieutenant.

GREAT REFORM DEMONSTRATION AT LEEDS.

THE promoters of the Reform movement determined to spare neither pains nor expense to render the demonstration of the West Riding reformers on Woodhouse-moor, near Leeds, on Monday, as complete and successful as possible; and, the day being fine, although somewhat foggy, as far as numbers and the zeal and enthusiasm with which the working classes of the West Riding have entered into the movement are concerned, their efforts have been undoubtedly crowned with success. With a few exceptions, the members for the West Riding and the towns within it either declined or were unable to attend. The procession was entirely composed of working men. The directors of the local railways refused to grant special facilities, but from an early hour in the morning the deputations from Bradford, Dewsbury, and other towns began to arrive; many of them had given proof of their zeal and earnestness by having walked the whole of the way; and at one o'clock an immense body, composed of the trades unions, the friendly and other societies, political and non-political, had assembled in front of the Townhall, whence the procession started for Woodhouse-moor, where—including the spectators who also lined the route in great numbers, and, judging from the rosettes and party-coloured emblems which most of them wore, evidently sympathised in the movement—there could not have been less than 80,000 persons present; and in the procession itself there were probably from 15,000 to 18,000. On Woodhouse-moor five platforms were prepared, from which the following resolutions were simultaneously proposed, and they were carried by acclamation:—

1. That this meeting enters its solemn protest against, and its denial of charges of venality, ignorance, drunkenness, and indifference to reform brought against the working classes during the last Session of Parliament, and hereby pledges itself to advocate for the future registered residential manhood suffrage and the ballot as the only just and proper basis of representation.

2. That this meeting desires to acknowledge the services of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Mr. John Bright, Mr. John Stuart Mill, and all those who have asserted the people's claim and vindicated their character in Parliament, and further expresses its confidence in Mr. John Bright as the champion of the national cause in the House of Commons.

3. That this meeting expresses its indignation at the conduct of those members of Parliament who have refused to aid the working classes in their endeavours to obtain a fair share of the franchise, and hereby pledges itself to unite with the men of London, Birmingham, Manchester, Bristol, Northumberland, Glasgow, Dublin, and elsewhere, in their determination to press the question of reform to an immediate settlement, to maintain the peace, and secure the contentment of the country.

The chairmen at the platforms were Mr. Woodhead, Huddersfield; Mr. Robert Kell, Bradford; Alderman Carter, Leeds; Mr. Clarkson, Dewsbury; Mr. Illingworth, Bradford. The chief speakers were Mr. Forster, M.P.; Mr. Scotson, Leeds; Mr. George Potter, London; Mr. Edmund Beales, London; the Rev. W. H. Bonner, H. Marles, H. Watts, J. H. Morgan, J. Myers; Mr. Ernest Jones, Manchester; Mr. Snowden, Halifax; Dr. Thornton, Dewsbury; Mr. Firth, Keighley; Mr. Hodgson, Bradford; Mr. Milnes Edge, Manchester; Mr. Croft, Huddersfield, &c. The proceedings, which were admirably organised, were conducted throughout in the most peaceful and orderly manner.

In the evening a meeting was held in the Victoria Hall of the Townhall, and the whole of that magnificent chamber was densely crowded long before the hour appointed for the commencement of the proceedings, but, owing to the incomplete arrangements of the parties in charge, there was a great deal of unnecessary confusion and no little struggling at the entrance. Mr. Alderman Carter, chairman of the Leeds Manhood Suffrage Association, presided; and was supported by Mr. Bright, M.P.; Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P.; Mr. E. R. Leatham, ex-M.P. for Huddersfield; Mr. Edmund Beales, Mr. Ernest Jones, and Mr. Potter, besides a number of the leading Liberals of the town and West Riding, who, as they appeared on the platform, were received with enthusiastic cheering.

Mr. Bright was the principal speaker, having, in reply to an address which was presented to him, delivered a lengthened and able speech, in which he discussed the reform question in similar terms and from like points of view as he has done in the several speeches which he has delivered since the prorogation of Parliament. The demonstration, in all respects, is considered to have been a great success.

A DESPATCH of 478 words in cipher from the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico to the Empress Charlotte recently passed over the Atlantic Telegraph. The cost of transmission was over 5000 dols.

NEW ACT ON PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR THE PEOPLE.—One of the last Acts passed in the late Session was to amend the law relating to the formation of public libraries in England and Scotland. Some alterations have been made which will facilitate public libraries, especially as by one of the provisions where a library or museum has or may be established, a library or museum may be established in connection with it under this Act. The Town Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, is not to apply to boroughs, and it is provided that the expenses of carrying the Public Libraries Act into force in boroughs are to be paid out of the borough fund. In boroughs a meeting is to be called at the request of the Town Council or of ten ratepayers. Another improvement is that parishes adjoining boroughs may unite to adopt the Act. Instead of "two thirds" at a meeting agreeing to adopt the Act, a majority of "more than one half" will be sufficient. The Act may now be adopted, no matter the amount of population. The Act is to be construed as one with the Public Libraries Act of 1856, and, if adopted, would raise the character of our working population.

A "STRANGE STORY."—A young lawyer, who had chambers in the Temple, had a nodding acquaintance with an old gentleman living on the same staircase. The old man was a wealthy old bachelor, and had a place in the country, to which he went for a week every Easter. His servants had charge of the place while he was away—an old married couple who had lived with him for twenty-seven years, and were types of the fine old English domestic. One Easter Tuesday the young lawyer was astonished to find the old gentleman on his Temple staircase, and made some remark about it. The old man asked him into his room, and said he had received a fearful shock. He had gone down as usual to his country place, had been received with intense cordiality, had found his dinner cooked to perfection, and everything as it had been done from the beginning. When the cloth was removed his faithful butler put his bottle of port on the table, and made the customary inquiries about his master's health, hoped master was not fatigued by the journey, had enjoyed his cutlet, and so on. The old gentleman was left alone, his hand was on the neck of the bottle of port, when it suddenly flashed across his mind, "Here I am, a lonely old man; no one cares for me; there is no one here to help me if anything should happen to me. What if my old servant and his wife have been cheating and robbing me all this time? What if they want to get rid of me, and have poisoned this bottle of wine?" The idea took hold of him so strongly that he could not touch his port. When the man came in again he said he did not feel well, would have a cup of tea; no, he would have a glass of water and go to bed. In the morning he rang his bell, and no one answered. He got up, found his way down stairs; the house was empty, his two faithful old servants had vanished. And when he came to look further he found that his cellar, which ought to have contained two or three thousand pounds' worth of wine, was empty, and the bottle they had brought him last night was poisoned.—*Cornhill Magazine*.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—Mr. Tidd Pratt states, in his annual report recently issued, that at the end of last year he sent out to friendly societies nearly 23,000 forms of returns to be made by them, but he never got so many as half of them sent back filled up. The 10,345 returns which he received relate to societies with 1,374,425 members and funds amounting to £5,362,028. Some of the societies are very small affairs; but there are such as the Brighton and Sussex Mutual Provident Society, with funds amounting to £26,703; the London Dock Friendly Society, with £27,182; the United Law Clerks, with £33,535; the Hearts of Oak Beneficial Society, Soho, with £40,467; the Royal Standard Benefit Society, Great Ormond-street, with £67,381; the Army Medical Officers', with £78,640. The report points out the objectionable character of rules requiring that, in case of any dispute, a claimant must, before the question can be considered by the arbitrator to whom all differences are to be referred, deposit a sum so considerable in comparison with what the claim may be, that there may be practically a refusal of payment of any claim except such as the society think proper to pay. Mr. Tidd Pratt presents this as a matter for legislative interference. He pleads for the establishment by parishes or unions of societies on sound principles for enabling the working classes to secure medical attendance and a certain amount of pay in sickness, and a sum below £20 (the lowest in the Government tables) payable at death. The Registrar also remonstrates against the omission from the proposed Bankruptcy Bill of a provision for payment in full of the funds of friendly societies in the hands of an officer becoming bankrupt—a provision which has been law for more than seventy years, and is in force with respect to officers of savings banks. He gives an account of the Mulhouse Association of France, which builds workmen's houses and disposes of them at cost price, the working man entering into possession at once, and paying the cost price (with interest) by instalments spread over several years.

Literature.

The Race for Wealth. A Novel. By Mrs. J. H. RIDDELL, Author of "George Geith," &c. London: Tinsley Brothers.

"The Race for Wealth," the latest fiction of Mrs. Riddell (whose name, by-the-way, now divulged, was but an ill-kept secret) has the author's old faults strongly developed, but, at the same time, there is valuable improvement in some of the elements. There is a greater variety of character, for instance, than in "George Geith"; but the hard fashion of drawing that character is intensified, and the "word-painting" of subjects neither pleasant nor valuable has become intolerable. Such a suggestion as "every country has its Juggernaut" leads to five pages about the "social ruck." A commercial crash is alluded to in about a couple of pages after this fashion:—"Finsbury-square knew it. So did the Pavement. It travelled down Sun-street. It tore up the paving-stones of Lothbury. The steeple of St. Michael's rocked. Lombard-street felt the pressure," &c. This kind of thing may be all very well whenever Mr. Dickens or Mr. Sala care to indulge in the production of perfect Dutch pictures; but a less finished artist would do wisely to dash it broadly in or leave it alone entirely. The reader must find it intolerable to be dragged through the streets in this manner. It can be no more pleasing than reading the "Post Office Directory" or studying the map of London; and when the human feelings and passions are examined in this way, very minutely, though still wholesale, it seems desirable to run away to some other fiction where people have no nerves at all, or where the novelist merely glances at them, instead of using the probe and the knife at every square inch.

But nobody will deny that the brighter side of the picture is brighter than usual. Mrs. Riddell is wonderfully faithful in drawing the City and east end of London. This time we are taken as far as Stepney, into a new world, where few novel-writers have penetrated, and not many readers of novels. The scenery and society may be taken on trust. They bear evidence of being genuine. Each description seems to have nothing to conceal, and yet nothing of vital importance to be displayed, as in the case of the minute word-painting which we find so tedious. The country again is well touched off; but not so the great people, who receive but little attention, and seem to be very much out of place. Indeed, the author is, as before, much more at home with City and Stepney people, or parvenus, than with anything like rank and fashion. And so high life is almost avoided; and once, when a ball is given at Stepney, and Belgravian is liberally represented at it, that fact only is mentioned, and Belgravian is not suffered to show itself off dramatically. The story is well told, but frequently incidents are marred by the writer's painful habit of giving a forecast of gloom. It is quite unnecessary to learn in the first volume how the hero's or heroine's hopes are to be blighted in the third. And, besides that, it is dull reading. Why should we read, when one fourth through the story, an intimation like this:—"She had him, this lad, who, when he grew to be a man, and entered into possession of man's estate of responsibility and sorrow, cursed the day in which he met her, the mother that bore, and the father who begat her?" Such a betrayal of suffering to come is precisely what a skilful artist would be careful to conceal. The characters are, perhaps unintentionally, a series of contrasts, and they are lifelike in one important respect, that no one is wholly good nor wholly bad. Mr. Sondes, the wealthy sugar-refiner, is the best drawn of all. He is stately and gloomy, and much attached to his enormous old house at Stepney. But he is thoroughly good, and that the people about him are quick at finding out. Mr. Alwyn, another wealthy mercantile man, retired, is comparatively feeble. All the Perkins family, "manufacturing chemist, Distaff-yard," are admirable, and their domestic details full of humour, founded on unmistakable flesh and blood. Perhaps too much fuss is made out of some of Nature's unfortunate ordinances. Miss Ada Perkins's fat face and neck, for instance, and her stiff hair, which will stick out in sundry places, &c. Vulgarly, and Ada has plenty of it, is a fairer subject for satire than personal peculiarities or defects. But the chief interest is the "race for wealth" between Lawrence Barbour and Percy Forbes, who are strangely mixed up in love affairs with Henrietta Alwyn and Olivine Sondes. Henrietta's father is the wealthy parvenu mentioned above, and he has purchased the fine estate of Lawrence Barbour's ruined father. Lawrence's hatred knows no bounds; but when he comes up to London, resolved to make a fortune in business, the first thing he does is to save the life of Henrietta—and love soon sets in. Henrietta is a scheming flirt; Olivine an angel; Percy Forbes a mere dawdler, who suddenly finds it necessary to work, and who does work, and with success. Percy is the most rational character amongst the many. He is a gentleman, which Lawrence is not. He has a good heart, some fun, some sorrow, not anger, and many good points which the other has not. How these four people become couples, and with what results, we shall not divulge. But we cannot leave the subject without assuring Mrs. Riddell that the final scene of reconciliation between the two women is the most extravagant piece of nonsense to be found in the whole range of sentimental fiction.

Reminiscences of a Bengal Civilian. By WILLIAM EDWARDS, Esq., Judge of Her Majesty's High Court of Agra. London: Smith, Elder and Co.

Indian literature has been overflowing of late, and great events elsewhere have "snuffed out" the mutinies of '57. But a personal narrative must have charms, and a gentleman in Mr. Edwards's position, perpetually in contact with the great men whose names have adorned our Eastern annals, cannot but have interest for the many who know India as it was and as it is. The times are no more alike than coaching is like railway travelling. Mr. Edwards left Haileybury (we hope it was a pleasanter place than Addiscombe) in 1837, and went to India overland, via Falmouth. Sir James Carnac, the then chairman of directors, had urged this overland passage, with a view to opening a line for goods and passengers. How this grew up under the care of Lieutenant Waghorn is matter of history; but Mr. Edwards may claim to have had an early and honourable share in the great undertaking. At that time, by the incipient overland route, it took between two and three months to reach Bombay, and the passage was full of dangers and discomforts. Now, delicate ladies look upon it as a picnic excursion. There is no necessity for tracing Mr. Edwards's steps here. He has something personal to say concerning all the great events—the disasters of 1841, and the series of brilliant triumphs and annexations which followed it; and a narrative of sufferings during the mutiny, which possesses breathless interest. He does not like the annexation policy, and thinks the bad system which prevailed about the sale of land, and the natives' mistake about the greased cartridges, responsible for the horrible events of 1857. These matters will still have interest for many readers; and the chapters in which the author describes his successful exertions to establish schools and prepare school books do him great credit. But, oddly enough, he seems to think that education and railways will be fatal to English domination in India.

The Brown Papers. By ARTHUR SKETCHLEY. London: Published at the *Fun* Office.

The *Times* the other day asserted—and was immediately corrected—that there had no more been a Mrs. Glasse than a Mrs. Harris, and that a Dr. Hill recommended people to first catch their hares. It might take ten times the *Times* to attempt to prove that there is no Mrs. Brown; for she has grown—has eaten herself, as it were—into the public mind, until she has become as distinct an entity as a Lord Mayor at a Mansion House. Amongst the myriad readers of our really "facetious contemporary," *Fun*, we all know a dozen or two who commence with the sportive Nicholas. They cannot do without the old man and his young friends, the contributors, than which, over a glass of good sherry wine, though in the decline of his middle years—(as Nicholas himself might say). But there are also great numbers who fly to Mr. Arthur Sketchley's

humorous Mrs. Brown. They have known her for three seasons now at the Egyptian Hall, and always long to know what has been her latest mishap, her latest weakness "warm," how she gets on with Mrs. Yardley, and so forth. A collection of these experiences, in the lady's own autobiographic form—for a shilling—must be a welcome pocketful for the traveller.

A glance over the collected pages which have amused us week by week suggests that the character of Mrs. Brown is very unsettled. It is difficult to know what that home at Kennington is like, although the glaring carpet is a certainty. It would be difficult to define Martha Brown's political principles, but an easy matter to understand her views as to water-rate collectors, temperance touts, and "active and intelligent" constables. Perhaps she will give the world her views of Dr. Francia and Governor Eyre; and some day, when Brown's aunt dies, and they come in for some money, she may get into society, and tell us something about Belgravian. Up to the present time Mrs. Brown is never alike in her spelling or her grammar, and it is all a chance whether her best or her worst feelings be uppermost. But she is always amusing and always welcome.

The Select Library of Fiction. London: Chapman and Hall.

The Trollopes are as irrepressible in English literature as the "everlasting nigger" is in the social and political affairs of America. In a much more agreeable way, however, First, there was the witty, sarcastic, and yet genial and pleasant, Mrs. Trollope, the forerunner of the generation of Trollopes who now figure so prominently and so persistently in literature. We are continually coming across books with the name of Trollope on the titlepage; and here we have before us at this moment no less than three owing to that parentage. These works are "Rachel Ray" and "The Macdermots of Ballycloran," by Anthony Trollope; and "Lindisfarne Chase," by T. A. Trollope. Habitual novel-readers are, of course, already familiar with these stories, which, if not the best their authors have produced, are decidedly good and well worth another perusal by those who have already read them; and to those who have not, we would say, "Buy these cheap volumes—only two shillings each—and dip into them at once. If you want good and amusing reading, you will be grateful for the advice."

In worthy companionship with the above-named productions of the Trollopes we have also before us, as another volume of the "Select Library," Charles Lever's "Luttrell of Arran," a book distinguished by most of the merits (and, it must be confessed, some of the few demerits) of the author's style. It is too late now, however, to point out either beauties or faults in the productions of Charles Lever. His stories have taken their place—a favoured one—in English literature; and we can only say that those persons who have not read "Luttrell of Arran" should do so immediately.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The Contemporary Review for October contains an article on the Catacombs of Rome, signed by a name which just now will attract attention—C. J. Hemans; and scarcely, if at all, second in interest, a second notice of Réman's "Les Apôtres"—this time by the Rev. S. Stead. The Rev. W. E. Jelf, B.D., contributes a paper upon "Home and School Education," which I shall not misrepresent if I say that the author thinks the balance of advantage is in our own day rather in favour of home education than of public-school education. Mr. St. John Tyrwhitt on the "Art-schools of the Future" is, as he always is, most admirable. He has a vivid, fertile mind, and a bright, incisive style. The article on "Recent Poetry" has the fault of being too kind—to one or two writers in the list, at all events.

I have three scientific periodicals before me—the *Popular Science Review*, the *Intellectual Observer*, and *Hardwicke's Science Gossip*. They are all good in their way. The *Observer* is particularly remarkable for the merit of its coloured illustrations. The *Popular Science Review* has this time got the photograph of Liebig, and here is his portrait, after all the mishaps and the putting off. In *Hardwicke's Science Gossip* there are some very curious anecdotes about birds, beasts, and insects; one of a pig and a chick that struck up a close friendship, and one of a dog that found out for himself how to ring a drawing-room bell, and used to tug at the bell-pull and then run outside the room to see the bell wagging. But the *Popular Science Review* contains one paragraph so extraordinary that I must quote it almost entire. Just think of an artificial eye that you could see with!

AN ARTIFICIAL EYE FOR RESTORING SIGHT.—An apparatus of this kind, whose efficiency we much doubt, has been described by M. Blanchet. The operation consists in puncturing the eye, and introducing a piece of apparatus to which M. Blanchet gives the name of "phosphore." The operation in most instances produces little pain, and when the globe of the eye has undergone degeneration, none at all, and the "phosphore" apparatus is introduced without difficulty. The contrivance consists of a shell of enamel, and of a tube closed at both its ends by glasses, whose form varies according to circumstances. The operator first punctures the eye with a narrow bistoury. The translucent humour having escaped, the "phosphore" apparatus is applied, and almost immediately, or after a short time, the patient is partially restored to sight! Before introducing the apparatus it is necessary to calculate the antero-posterior diameter of the eye, and if the lens has cataract it must be removed. Inasmuch as the range of vision depends on the quantity of the humour left behind, M. Blanchet recommends the employment of spectacles of various kinds.

The *Victoria* has all its usual characteristics. The open correspondence is always interesting, whether one agrees with the writers, or don't.

In the *St. James's* a new story is begun, called "A Life's Mystery," by Clinton Hope.

In the very front rank I place *Aunt Judy's Magazine*. It is very, very good. It has, indeed, one most grave fault in my mind—it is too "genteel." Otherwise, it is capital.

The *Household and Floral World* are both very nice magazines of their kinds—pleasant and useful as remembrancers even when they are not, as they generally are, directly informing.

In noticing *London Society*, last week, I might very well have said a strong word for the beautiful verses signed "S," which accompany the portrait of Mr. Peabody.

A correspondent informs me that the illustration on toned paper referred to in the October part of *Once a Week* as belonging to a specified page had already appeared in the September part. I didn't happen to see the September part; it may have reached the office, but there's many a slip, &c. This correspondent is, one may add, a little rude in his hint that the reviewer should be "more careful." In the first place, I simply asked a question, where a good many reviewers would have said something harsh, and would have expressed no doubt. In the second place, I find, upon rough count, that I have every month upwards of 5000 pages of magazine to look at; and in the really important part of what I say about them, I believe I never make a mistake, except in *less* or *more*—i.e., that the direction of what I say is always right, though my adjectives may be too strong or too weak. Lastly, the titlepage of *Once a Week* for October reads as follows:—"Poor Christine. By Georgiana M. Craik. With separate Illustration, on toned paper." Now, if the illustration was in the previous number (which I repeat I did not see), the word "with" in this number must be very loosely read before it can be said to represent a fact. I have, however, always spoken so warmly of *Once a Week*, that it would be quite unnecessary for any friend of the periodical to get out of humour even if I did make a mistake—which I didn't.

Everybody is glad to see that Mr. Shirley Brooks is going to bring out a new novel, in numbers, called "Sooner or Later." But there is no really interesting literary news abroad.

THE DESIGN FOR A MARBLE STATUE of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, to be placed in one of the niches in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, has been on private view during the past few days in that town. The statue, which is to be completed in about a year and a half from the present time, represents the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer in his official robes.

THE PARIS INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

THE GALLERIES.

We have already published Engravings representing the progress of the Great International Exhibition building in the Champ de Mars, and an Illustration this week will indicate that the main work is approaching completion.

The immense area of ground on which the building stands will be divided into two portions, that occupied by the Palace itself and the space devoted to the park. In the palace, all the eastern side of the grand avenue which divides the Champ de Mars into two equal parts, from the Bridge of Jena to the central dome of the military school, is devoted to the products of France, Belgium, and Holland. England and the United States occupy the north-west corner; the south-west corner is intended for what, until recently, was the Germanic Confederation, Prussia, Austria, and the other States of Europe. The restaurants, cafés, and other places of refreshment will occupy the exterior of the building, under the roof of the outer balcony. The park will be crossed by seventeen avenues converging on the central garden; and, in order to give agriculture a prominent place in the exhibition, the Imperial Commission has decided that a space of ground at a short distance from the Champ de Mars shall be reserved for the working specimens of all kinds of machinery applied to the operations of field-labour, so that the primitive Oriental and Chinese plough, which is little more than a bough of tree dragged over the surface of the earth, may, perhaps, be contrasted with the latest adaptations of steam for the production of deep and straight furrows. The Society for the Protection of Animals proposes to exhibit all the machines invented for the purpose of

mitigating the severity of the labours imposed on beasts of burden. It is said, too, that special precautions will be taken in order to guard against the felonious ingenuity of London thieves, who will, it is believed, muster in great force.

The great gallery represented in our Illustration is already so complete that the visitor can traverse its whole extent, and all the operations of the place are making such progress that little remains to be done in the substantial framework. In a very short time the engineers who are to prepare for the opening festival will have possession of the building, the four



THE GALLERIES OF THE PARIS INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION BUILDING.

principal divisions of which are actually of the size of the Bonaparte Sebastopol. All the ground floor may be visited, and four carriage-ways are constructed, which about on a central rotundo, whence visitors may obtain admission to the superior galleries. For anyone who has paid the least attention to what is going on in France, it is impossible to doubt that the French Exhibition of 1867 will be, in every respect, the most remarkable display of its kind. It will be most important, not merely as regards the peculiar construction of the building, but also as to the scope of the Exhibition itself; the variety, the amount, the arrangement of the exhibits; and the organised modes in which the vast assemblage of objects will be scientifically reported upon. No expense, no amount of thought, &c. being spared to obtain this result.

The forthcoming Exhibition, however, provides a worthy topic of interest for the Parisians, and will, it may be hoped, supersede some other subjects which have been good neither for instruction nor edification. All the resources at present available will still be needed to complete the arrangements in time; for before Jan. 15, 1867, the special preparations of the exhibitors in the palace and the park, will have to be made. From that date to March 10 is the time given for the arrival of the foreign exhibits and their reception and unpacking in the Exhibition building. By March 28 the exhibits must be arranged in their determined positions; the two following days will be given to a general clearing up. On March 31 the whole will be reviewed, and on April 1 the Exhibition will be opened, to be closed on Oct. 31.

advanced the social, material, and moral condition of mankind. Individuals and societies are invited to compete, so that we may have an exhaustive examination and report of the working of trades unions, educational measures, and those schemes which were once so famous as examples of the possibility of social communism.

Probably, as the Emperor himself is one of the candidates, it may be discovered that he has done most for France in all three directions indicated; and, should he make such a claim, it might not be easy to dispute it; although the present moral condition of French society, and especially the examples of modern popular French literature would be but poor proofs of the national advancement in any but merely material prosperity.

One of the most novel of the intended features of the Exhibition was described, last November, by the Minister of Public Instruction, M. Duruy, in a report addressed to the Emperor. After claiming for France the priority of idea in establishing periodical exhibitions, and for the Emperor himself the first proposal, made seventeen years ago, of a universal exhibition, the Minister brings forward a plan whereby yet another scheme of the Emperor may be carried out. This is no less than an attempt at investigating what the moral and political sciences have done to ameliorate the state of society during the last twenty years, and what French literature has done "to elevate the soul of the nation."

Four prizes of £100 each and one grand prize of £1000 are to be given to those who shall establish their claim to having by some definite means most

THE INUNDATIONS IN FRANCE.



THE PLACE ST. LOUIS, GIEN.



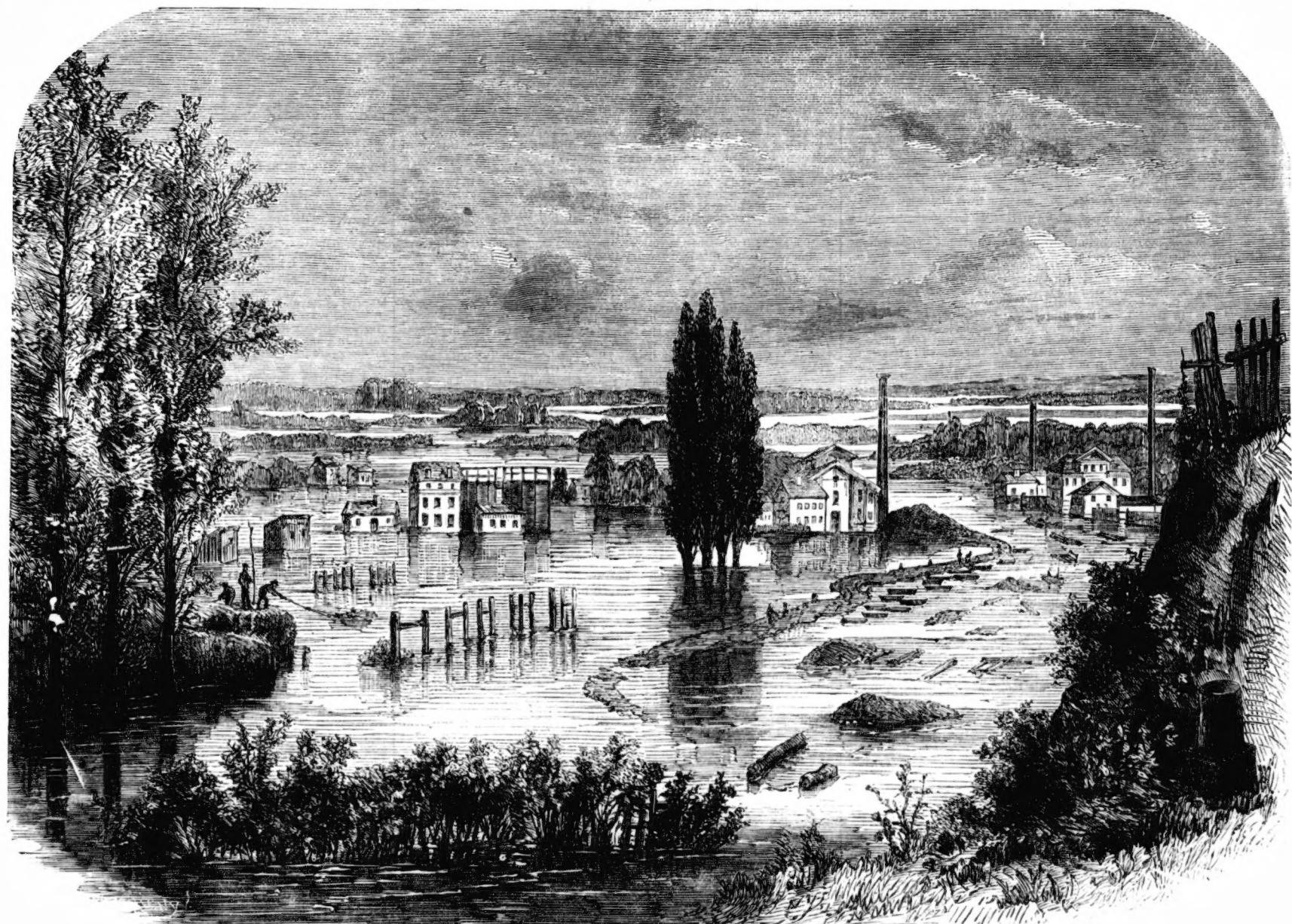
THE MAIN STREET, GIEN.

THE INUNDATIONS IN FRANCE.

DURING the past few weeks the despondent temper which has so strangely come over some of the inhabitants of the gayest city in the world has been enhanced by the intelligence which has daily

reached Paris of fresh disasters in consequence of the floods. Happily, the inundation has now abated, and some days ago it was hoped that the waters had reached their highest point; but so much damage has been done and so much suffering will still ensue from the calamity that it is still a leading topic of conversation. We have

already given some particulars of the strange and bizarre accidents which resulted in the overflow of the Seine near Paris. The great bathing establishments seemed to have broken from their moorings and floated above the quays; haystacks, timber, trees, and wrack of all sorts was born down by the stream and stopped at the arches of



VIEW ON THE PLAIN OF ALFORT, NEAR THE BRIDGE OF CRÉTEIL.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

The Seine of Paris proper was, of course, prevented from committing so many ravages by the solid quays and banks of masonry, and in this respect the mischief which marked its overflow in previous years has been prevented; for the rising of the river has been matter of history ever since 583, when boats plied over the area of the Faubourg St. Denis.

The revelations made by the floods in stirring up and sending to the surface much that had lain buried in the river's bed is something awful; for the bodies of murdered and mutilated victims have appeared, as well as those who have either committed suicide or fallen into the stream.

Our larger Engraving represents the scene in the open country at Alfort, after the overthrow of the bridge of Crétel. The effects of the floods in the Loire, however, were still more startling; and our smaller Illustrations exhibit the state of things in the streets and squares of Gien, which is situated on the right bank of that river, thirty-eight miles from Orleans, at a point where the stream is crossed by a handsome bridge. Railway circulation has been interrupted on all the lines between Orleans and Tours, the safety of the latter city being seriously menaced by the combined waters of the Loire and the Cher.

The communication between Paris and Tours is now by the Breton lines. At Nantes great precautions have been taken, and boats collected. In the Department of the Lozère the number of bridges destroyed or seriously damaged by the floods amounts to sixteen on the Imperial roads, fourteen on the departmental roads, and forty-five on the vicinal roads. It is melancholy to read the accounts in the French papers. There is scarcely any evil worse than a bad inundation: houses flooded and overthrown, domestic animals of all kinds drowned, vast tracts of land turned into lakes, villagers plunged in a few hours into poverty and misery.

At the time our Illustrations were taken, no diminution in the rise of the waters of the Loire had yet taken place. At six in the evening the waters had attained the height of 22 ft., and, according to the news received from the upper part of the river, they were not expected to have reached their maximum. The old embankment on the left side had been carried away for a distance of 80 yards, and the valley of the Loire was submerged in some places to a depth of 20 ft. The streets of Nevers were filled with cattle and carts laden with furniture from the localities evacuated by the inhabitants; the number of persons who had taken refuge there already amounted to more than 600. The working of the forges at Fourchambault had to be suspended. The communication on the railway between Nevers and Saincaise—the point of junction of the lines to Bourges, Moulins, and St. Germain des Fossés—was suspended, the permanent way being very seriously menaced in several places. On the Allier a suspension-bridge at Chazénil had been swept away. Considerable damage had been done at Moulins, and at Gien a portion of the town was under water. The Loire at Digoin had attained the same height as in 1846—that is, 22 ft. At Sens there was 3 ft. of water in the streets, and many of the old houses had been evacuated.

MR. BRAND, M.P., AND THE REFORM DEMONSTRATION.—The following letter has been sent by Mr. Brand in answer to an invitation to attend the approaching Reform banquet at Manchester:—“Glynde, Oct. 3, 1866.—Sir,—It is with regret that, on public grounds, I feel bound to decline the invitation of the executive of the National Reform Union to attend the reform banquet at Manchester next month. I hold it to be my duty, as a Liberal member of Parliament, to wait and watch the action of the present Government with respect to the Reform question. Three courses are open to the Government—1. They may decline to deal with the Reform question at all. 2. They may propose an illusory or pernicious measure. 3. They may propose a measure, if not good, at least capable of being made so. It seems to me that the line to be taken by the Liberal party is clear. If the Government take the last and best course, we ought to support the second reading of their bill, and endeavour to improve it in Committee. On the other hand, if the Government take either the first or second course, it will be for Parliament to pass judgment upon them.—Believe me, yours obediently, H. BRAND.—J. D. Morton, Esq., National Reform Union, Manchester.”

WINDSOR CASTLE.—The removal of the grand staircase has been completed, portions of which will be used in the construction of the new staircase, the steps not being in the least worn. The foundations of the intended new approach to the state apartments have been laid, and blocks of stone upwards of five tons weight have been brought to the North Terrace, which resembles that of a stonemason's yard, from the number of mechanics at work there; but the works cannot be completed for several months to come. During the time of this important alteration the public are admitted, in going over those rooms shown on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, by another entrance, and conducted through the rooms by a new route, and through the King's Drawing-room or Rubens's Room, the walls of which are adorned by some fine paintings of this great master, and also through the Throne-room, in which are some of the best paintings by Sir Benjamin West. These two rooms, looking into the North Terrace, have until now been closed to the public ever since the Emperor and Empress of the French paid a visit to the Queen at Windsor, when these apartments were attached to the suite of rooms appropriated to their Majesties.

NEW LIFE-BOATS.—The people of Bristol and Clifton and Cheltenham have recently presented to the National Life-boat Institution the cost of two life-boats and their equipment, including transporting carriages. The Cheltenham life-boat, which is 32 ft. long, and which is to be stationed at Burnham, on the Somerset coast, was publicly exhibited at Cheltenham on Wednesday last. The boat was named by Lady Charlotte Schreiber, and afterwards launched into a lake in the neighbourhood of the town. The Bristol and Clifton life-boat, which is of the same dimensions as the Cheltenham life-boat, is to be publicly shown, in Bristol, on the 13th inst., and where, like Cheltenham, most extensive preparations have been made to give a hearty welcome to the boat of mercy. The presentation of the life boat will take place at Clifton and be made by Mr. Commissioner Hill. The boat will afterwards be named by Miss Florence Hill and launched into a lake at Clifton. This boat is to be stationed at Lossiemouth, a dangerous point on the Scotch coast. It should be added that the Bristol and Clifton life-boat fund owes, mainly, its origin to the Histrionic Club of those places. Bristol had previously given the institution the cost of life-boat, which is named the Albert Edward, after his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and is stationed at Padstow, on the shores of the Bristol Channel, where, last winter, it saved, during a fearful midnight storm, seventeen lives from the wrecked barque *Juliet* of Greenock.

SCENE IN VENICE.—A correspondent, in describing a scene of enthusiasm in the principal theatre of Venice, says that the instruments were overpowered at times, and had to pause while cheers were addressed to particular ladies in the house who have distinguished themselves by their devotion to Venice or by their detestation of the Austrians:—“Viva la Labri!”—a lady precious to the people from her having undergone a month's imprisonment last year. The fair Countess Marcello, one of the beauties of Venice, and the handsomest woman among many, had to bow to a thunder of cheers. I confess I did not hear Mr. Layard's name associated with this charming company, but one beside me positively asserted that it was. The “Memory of Carlo Alberto” drew prolonged applause, and I mention it pointedly. “Cavour” was not forgotten. “Count Bismarck” was put up and assented to. I heard also *viva* for “l'Infeccia Greca,” otherwise Candia, I presume. So, with wavings of flags, and clapping of hands, and general delirium, we fell upon Garibaldi's hymn, and surpassed ourselves as much, I dare say, as this extraordinary scene will be surpassed when the King comes in person, for Italians have inexhaustible stores of the *materiel* out of which demonstrations are made; afterwards many fair ladies visited Florian's, in the Plaza.

LOCKING UP PAUPERS WITH CORPSES.—There seems to be no end to the details of workhouse mismanagement. The public mind has been thoroughly sickened and disgusted by the horrible revelations which the London union houses have supplied, and now it creeps out that at Gateshead the dreadful practice has prevailed for years of locking up refractory paupers with corpses. The deathhouse of the Gateshead Workhouse has done duty also under a grim economy as a prisoner's cell. How revolting this is to all feelings of common humanity! Even when there are no bodies in it the associations of such a place would be enough to make a solitary prisoner shudder with terror, unless possessed of tolerably strong nerves—stronger than many people are blessed with. As to being locked up with a corpse alone it is really sufficient in some constitutions to produce madness, or at least to give the nervous system a shock from which it could never recover. None but the most callous, embruted nature could pass through the ordeal altogether unmoved. Take into account, also, the physical dangers attending the practice, and it is hardly possible to conceive anything more heartless and cruel. It is neither more nor less than the propagation of contagious disease reduced to a system. Of course this execrable mode of punishment will at once be put an end to; but what have the Visiting Committees been about not to have dealt with it before, and how is it that the master has persevered in the practice for years without enforcing upon the guardians the necessity for other provision being made? Evidently anything will do for paupers. What will the Poor-Law Board say to this?—*Northern Daily Express*.

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, WESTMINSTER

THE parish church of St. James's, Westminster, which has been closed since the beginning of August, will be reopened on Sunday next. In the interval it has undergone a thorough renovation, and some alterations have been made which it may be interesting to specify. Until now the original design of Wren has never been done full justice to. It is well known that the architect did not find the sum which was available for the erection of the church adequate to the production of such a building as he devised; and that he therefore bestowed all his pains and skill upon the interior, providing in the exterior little more than a plain, substantial box, or packing-case, to hold the beautiful work within. But even this restricted plan he was unable to execute satisfactorily for want of funds. The staircases and lobbies by which access was given to the galleries he was compelled to thrust into the interior, where they formed for many years hideous excrescences, utterly marring its proportions, as well as darkening the windows and hiding a large portion of the columns at the north-west and south-west extremities. Ten years ago these lobbies were cleared away, and, to supply their place, vestibules were erected, where it is manifest that Wren must have originally intended to place such structures—viz., in the angles formed on the north-west and south-west by the tower and the main building. A great mistake, however, was then committed in the extension of the organ gallery at each end, so that it neutralised much of what was gained by the removal of the lobbies, though intersecting the upper part of the columns, whose lower extremities had been rescued from those unsightly casings. This blunder has now been rectified, and the whole range of columns on each side stands out in the unbroken completeness of the great architect's intention. The exquisite carving of Grinling Gibbons, which forms the altarpiece, has been thrown out into greater distinctness by a darker tint being given to the background upon which it rests, and the architraves and entablatures of the arcades which sustain, with such consummate art, the lateral pressure of the roof, have been picked out with gilding in a manner which may occasion regret that the same treatment has not been extended to the rich mouldings of the roof itself. The pews remain *in situ quo*, and it may be questioned whether mischief would not be done by the “cutting down” which is now so indiscriminately advocated. It is true that Wren was no friend to pews. In his “Parentalia,” he says, “a church should not be so filled with pews but that the poor may have room enough to stand and sit in the alleys; for to them equally is the Gospel preached. It were to be wished there were to be no pews, but benches; but there is no stemming the tide of profit and the advantage to pew-keepers, especially, too, since by pews in the chapels of ease the minister is chiefly supported.” There can be little doubt, however, that he adapted his design for St. James's Church to the necessity which he then deplored, and that he had the pew-line in his eye when he adjusted the general proportion of this noble interior. In St. Martin-in-the-Fields an instance may be seen of the ill effect of removing the pew-line to a lower level than was contemplated by the architect. Before the alteration in St. Martin's the open space below the galleries was much less than the space above, and the pew-line afforded to the eye the appearance of a sort of base to the superstructure. The line of the galleries is now so palpably half way up the side of the church that they appear suspended midway, arresting and detaining the eye in its upward course rather than forming, as they do at St. James's, a kind of standing ground from which it can survey undistracted the construction and ornamentation of the upper portion of the building. The organ of St. James's, given by Queen Mary (in the words of the Royal warrant, dated Aug. 24, 1691), out of the “great chappel at Whitehall which heretofore ye Papist possessed,” will be shortly enlarged by the completion of a new trumpet stop. This addition, with the still greater ones previously made to the instrument, under the direction of Mr. Churchwarden Crane, will render it one of the most complete, as well as one of the finest toned, in London. The lighting and ventilation of the church have also been improved by the substitution of two large sunlights in the ceiling for the standards and brackets hitherto employed.

DR. NEWMAN AND THE TEMPORAL POWER.—Dr. Newman's views of the importance of the temporal power of the Pope, as expressed in a sermon which he delivered, on Sunday morning, at the Oratory Church, Edgbaston, Birmingham, appear to fall considerably short of those entertained by Dr. Manning and the Irish Bishops. Whilst maintaining, with all the earnestness of the extremest advocates of the temporal power, the inalienable right of the Papacy to the States with which it has been from time to time endowed, under Providence, by the Princes of Christendom, and denouncing in terms as unmeasured as those of Dr. Manning himself the sacrilegious robbers who would despoil the Church of territories which have been her undisputed possession for ages, Dr. Newman is not prepared, looking to the fact that there were Popes in the early ages of Christianity who possessed no temporal power, to assert that the maintenance of that power now is absolutely indispensable to the life and functions of the Church, or that Providence may not, by some compensating principle, obviate the consequences of any loss of temporalities with which it may be pleased to visit the Church. At the same time, Dr. Newman does not believe that the threatened severance of the temporal sovereignty from the Papedom as a permanency will be permitted; and, humanly speaking, it would be so great an evil for the Church that all true Catholics must join in praying God to avert it.

ANOTHER NOVELTY IN IRONCLADS.—At present, when public attention throughout the world is so much directed to the subject of vessels of war, considerable interest will be excited by the fact that Messrs. Laird Brothers, of Birkenhead, have just completed (for the Dutch Government) a magnificent iron-plated steamer, which is expected to be one of the most effective ships of the kind afloat. The vessel is named the *Prins Hendrik*, and both the hull and engines are designed by Messrs. Laird. The chief novelty of this vessel is that she is driven by two screw-engines, each of 200-horse power nominal. Her armament consists of turrets with carriages for two 124-ton 300-pounder guns, on the system of Captain Coles, R.N., which will throw a broadside of 1200 lb. Another difference between this vessel and others constructed on the turret principle is, that she is some 3 ft. or 4 ft. higher out of the water than any vessel of the same kind built either in England or America. Thus the officers and crew will have very much more accommodation and convenience, and the vessel will be enabled to keep the sea for a considerable length of time. Her armour-plating is $\frac{5}{8}$ in. thick, with a teak back 10 in. thick, and her speed is fully expected to exceed twelve knots an hour. The same builders have also near completion an Indian transport, entitled the *Euphrates*, intended for the East Indian service, and fitted up to carry 1250 troops and 200 ship's officers and crew. Her engines are of 700-horse power, but will work up to 4200. The speed of the *Euphrates* is intended to exceed fourteen knots an hour, while she will at the same time carry coal for seventeen days' consumption.

CURIOSITIES OF HYMNOLOGY.—We will next proceed to three books which appeared at Aberdeen. The first is a collection of spiritual songs, printed in 1823, and edited by the Rev. C. Gordon, a Roman Catholic priest. These songs are adapted to popular airs, as “Kiliecrankie,” “Black Laddie,” “Saw ye not my Peggy?” “Pattie's Mill,” “Bush aboon Traqnair,” “The Yellow-haired Laddie,” “Gilderoy,” “Lochabar no more,” &c. They were compiled in the interests of a party, and are often in very bad taste and spirit. This is how one of them begins:—

“It's but a mere illusion
For a man to be a Whig,
Their great mass of confusion
Would any brain fatigue;
They're rugged in appearance,
They slight all scripture clearance,
With them there's no coherence,
Of notes in their new jig.”

After nine stanzas more in the same style, it thus concludes:—

“For decency in praying,
Or when they forge a grace,
They cry, shrink, gape in staring,
And wrinkle so their face:
As if by all sensation,
They felt their depreciation
To be abomination
To the high throne of grace.”—*Christian Society*.

OUR MEAT SUPPLY.—For some time past the experiment of importing meat has been tried with a certain amount of success. We have been receiving large supplies of mutton and beef from Holland; the mutton, in particular, has been abundant and of excellent quality, and, unless the weather has been unfavourable, has generally arrived in very good condition. Of the quality of this meat any judge may satisfy himself by a visit to Newgate Market, where he may be certain that the greater part of the finest-looking carcasses of sheep have been landed from Holland, probably on the day before his visit; he will perceive that there is sufficient fat to satisfy the fastidious housekeeper and economist, while the flavour of the meat is reported to be excellent, and salesmen say that the mutton may be compared with the Scotch without suffering any disparagement. This meat, supplied apparently in abundance, is sold at from 5d. to 7d. per pound, according to the quantity in the market, the state of the weather, and the other circumstances which regulate prices. It may, however, be accepted as an average statement that fine mutton, in good condition, is sold at 6d. per pound; and, in face of this fact, what benefit does the public receive? An abundant supply of meat is obtained at a moderate rate, and yet we observe a maintenance of almost famine prices at retail establishments; whether the meat in the market be sold at 4s. or 6s. per stone seems to make no practical difference in the cost of the commodity to the consumer. But although it may seem inexplicable on any other ground than that of a monopoly, there is in reality a very cogent reason, in the utter uncertainty which attends the supply, and the impossibility of predicated the quality and condition of the meat until its arrival. It happens in warm moist weather that the carcasses, packed as they are, become heated on the voyage, and the meat cannot be kept many hours without becoming tainted. In this state it can only be disposed of, at a ruinously low rate, to the manufacturers of certain savoury compounds which are wont to adorn and give variety to our breakfast tables under the name of potted meats.—*The Field*.

POPULAR PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITS.

A popular singer or actor or a successful prizefighter will sometimes have a run entering into tens of thousands of copies; but the demand will suddenly collapse and their names will be heard no more. Public men whose names are distinguished in connection with the pulpit, with literature, science, or art, or in the Legislature, are in constant demand, notwithstanding that the especial rage of this collection of portraits has within the last twelve months considerably subsided. Royal portraiture is always popular; and perhaps nothing can more strikingly illustrate the loyalty of Englishmen than the constant demand for portraits of members of the reigning family. Just about the period of the marriage of the Prince of Wales a photographer in Brussels had the good fortune to obtain sittings from the Queen and several members of the Royal family, including the Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra; and the sale of these portraits exceeded 2,000,000 of copies. One photographer alone in this country has during the last few years issued upwards of half a million yearly of members of the Royal family. After the Royal family, the popular statesmen are the greatest favourites: Lord Palmerston during his life and for some little time after his death being in greatest demand. If the sale of men's portraits afford any indication of the popularity of their principles, it is tolerably manifest that Liberalism obtains very strongly in this country, the circulation of the portraits being in the ratio of ten of Gladstone to one of Derby, who is, however, judged by this standard, the most popular of the Conservatives. On the other hand, the portraits of Louis Napoleon and Garibaldi have about an equal popularity, the rage for the portraits of the latter being more spasmodic, and of the former more steady. After statesmen, popular literary men and clergymen are most in demand; and after these men of science and artists; and, lastly, popular actors and singers. Bishops seem to circulate in virtue of their rank, the Archbishop of Canterbury having the most extended circulation, whilst clergymen and ministers are prized only in *virtue* of their popularity. Mr. Spurgeon was for a time in very large circulation. Mr. Binney less extensively, but more constantly.—*British Quarterly Review*.

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